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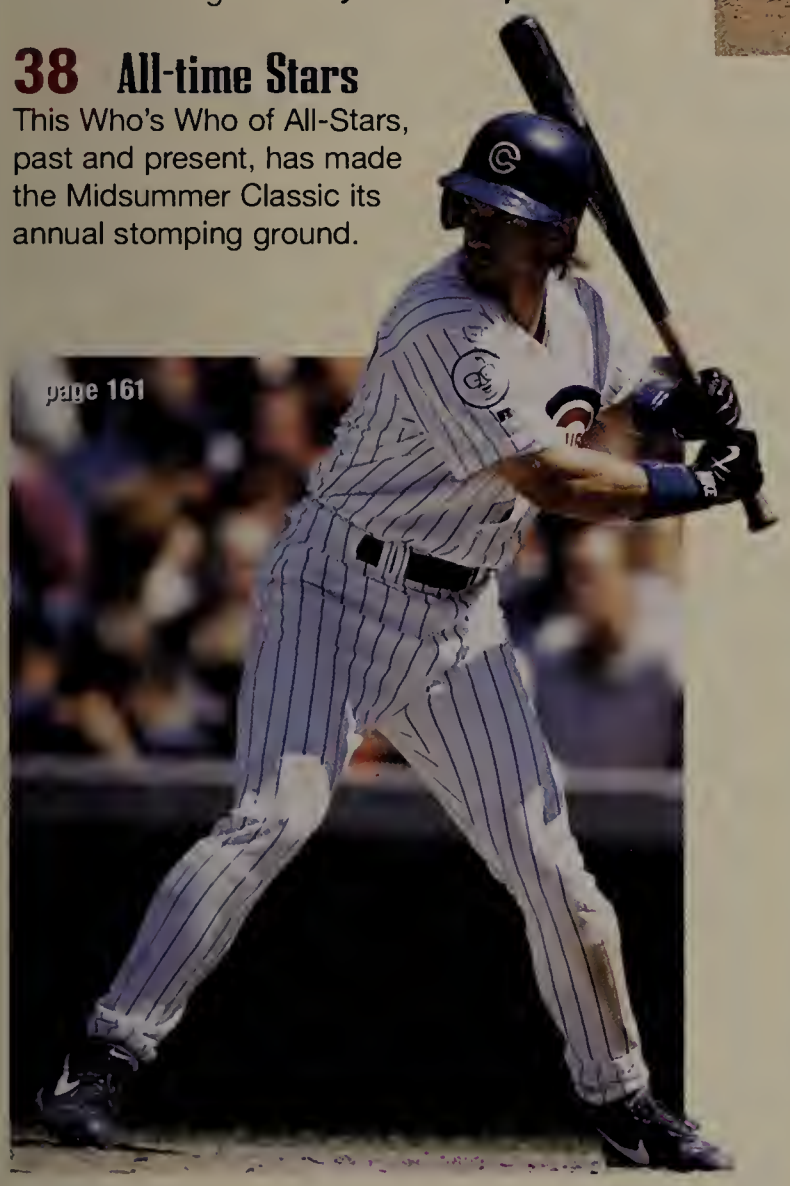
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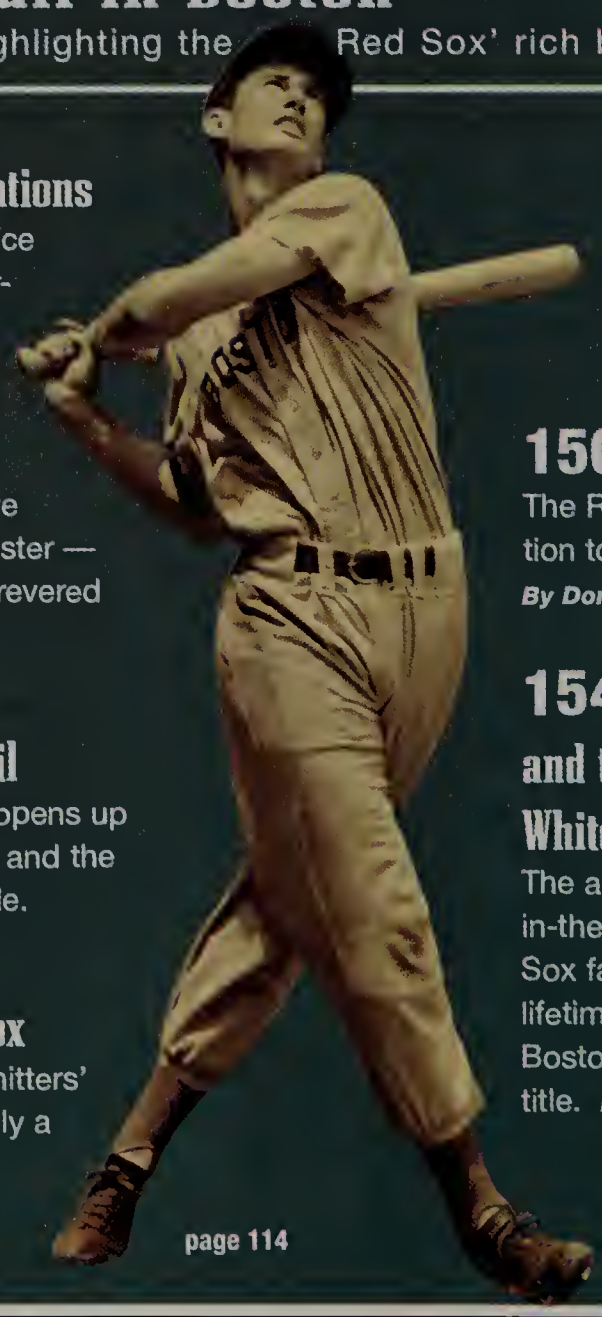
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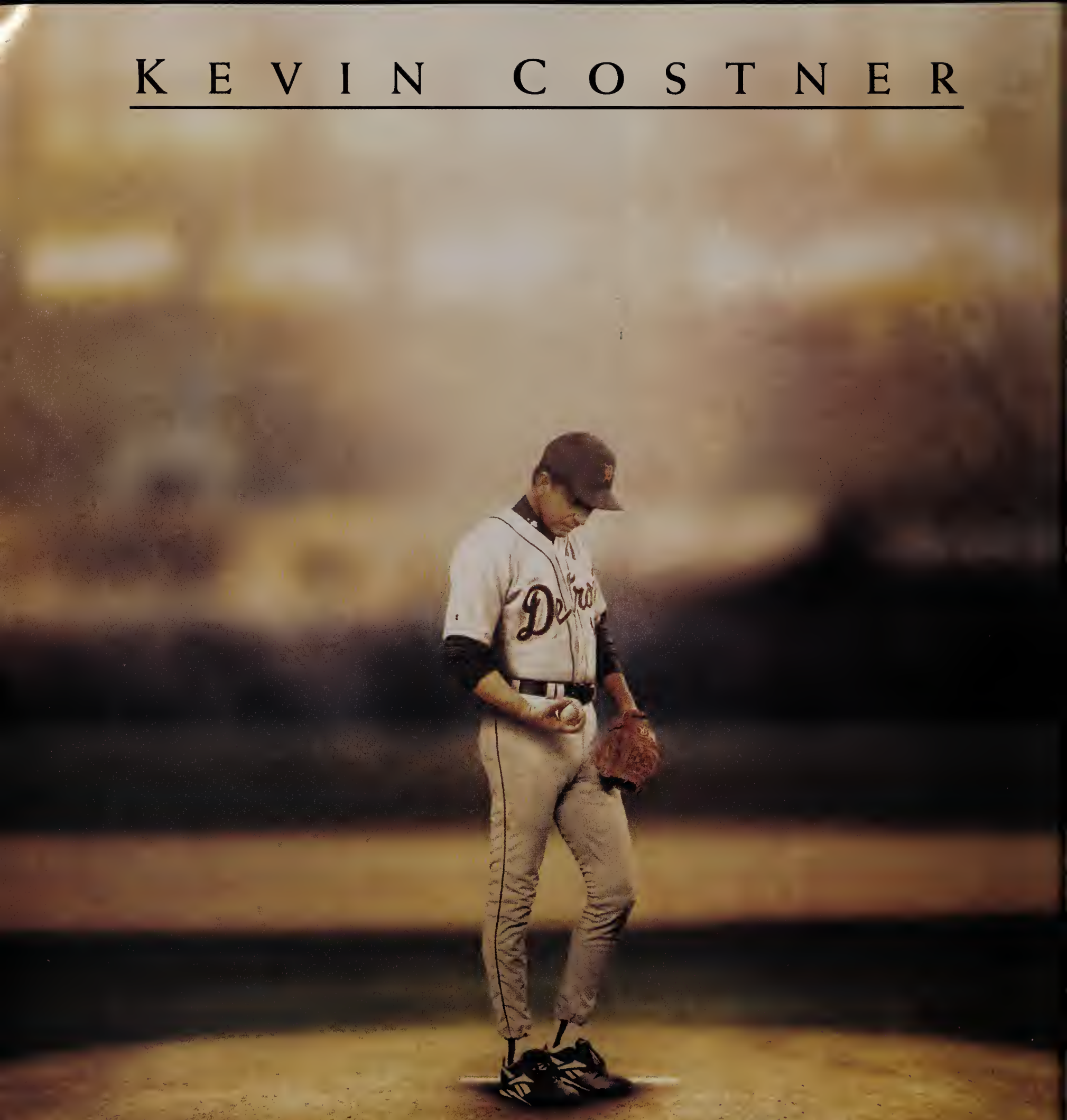
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From the Commissioner

Office of the Commissioner
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

Dear Fans:

On behalf of Major League Baseball, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 1999 All-Star Game at historic Fenway Park in Boston.

The 1999 All-Star Game will be a very special event, as it is the last All-Star Game of a terrific century for Major League Baseball. The selection of Boston to host the final All-Star Game is extremely fitting, as the Boston franchise was a charter member of the American League and the city of Boston also has strong historic ties with the National League. Fenway Park, one of baseball's oldest and most cherished ballparks, will serve as a magnificent backdrop for a series of All-Star events that will pay homage to the great stars of the past while celebrating the current and future stars who will carry Major League Baseball into the next millennium.

Since its inception in 1933, the All-Star Game has given baseball fans a unique and exciting opportunity to watch Major League Baseball's greatest stars competing against each other on the same playing field. For most of the 20th century, the All-Star Game has provided baseball fans with many memorable moments, and I am confident that the 1999 All-Star Game will be a spectacular event that bridges baseball's glorious past with the promise of the future.

Sincerely,

Allan H. (Bud) Selig
Commissioner of Baseball

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Major League Baseball Executives



Allan H. (Bud) Selig

Commissioner of Baseball

Allan H. "Bud" Selig was elected the ninth Commissioner of Baseball on July 9, 1998 by a unanimous vote of the 30 Major League Baseball club owners.

Prior to his election as Commissioner, Selig had served as Chairman of the Executive Council since September 9, 1992 and had been the central figure in Major League Baseball's organizational structure.

Selig was responsible for shaping Major League Baseball's historic revenue sharing agreement between large and small market clubs. He has also led the way toward implementation of many of the game's recent structural changes, including Interleague Play, the Wild Card Playoff format and three-division realignment.



Paul Beeston

President and Chief Operating Officer

Paul Beeston was named President and Chief Operating Officer of Major League Baseball on July 22, 1997. He reports directly to Commissioner Bud Selig and is responsible for all phases of baseball's central offices.

Prior to joining Major League Baseball, he worked for the Toronto Blue Jays, where he was named President and Chief Operating Officer in 1989 and President and Chief Executive Officer in 1991. He was the Blue Jays first employee when the club formed in 1976.



Dr. Gene A. Budig

American League President

Gene A. Budig became the seventh president of the American League on August 1, 1994. He holds three academic degrees from the University of Nebraska.

Dr. Budig previously headed three major state universities as a teaching chancellor and was chancellor of the University of Kansas for 13 years, where state-of-the-art teaching facility Budig Hall was recently dedicated. He was active in the Air National Guard for nearly 30 years, attaining the rank of major general.



Leonard S. Coleman, Jr.

National League President

Leonard S. Coleman, Jr. was voted the 14th president of the National League on March 1, 1994. He joined Major League Baseball in 1992 as Executive Director-Market Development. He received an undergraduate degree from Princeton University and earned two master's degrees at Harvard.

Previously, Coleman was a municipal finance banker with national responsibilities at Kidder, Peabody & Company. He has also served as commissioner of both the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey Department of Energy.

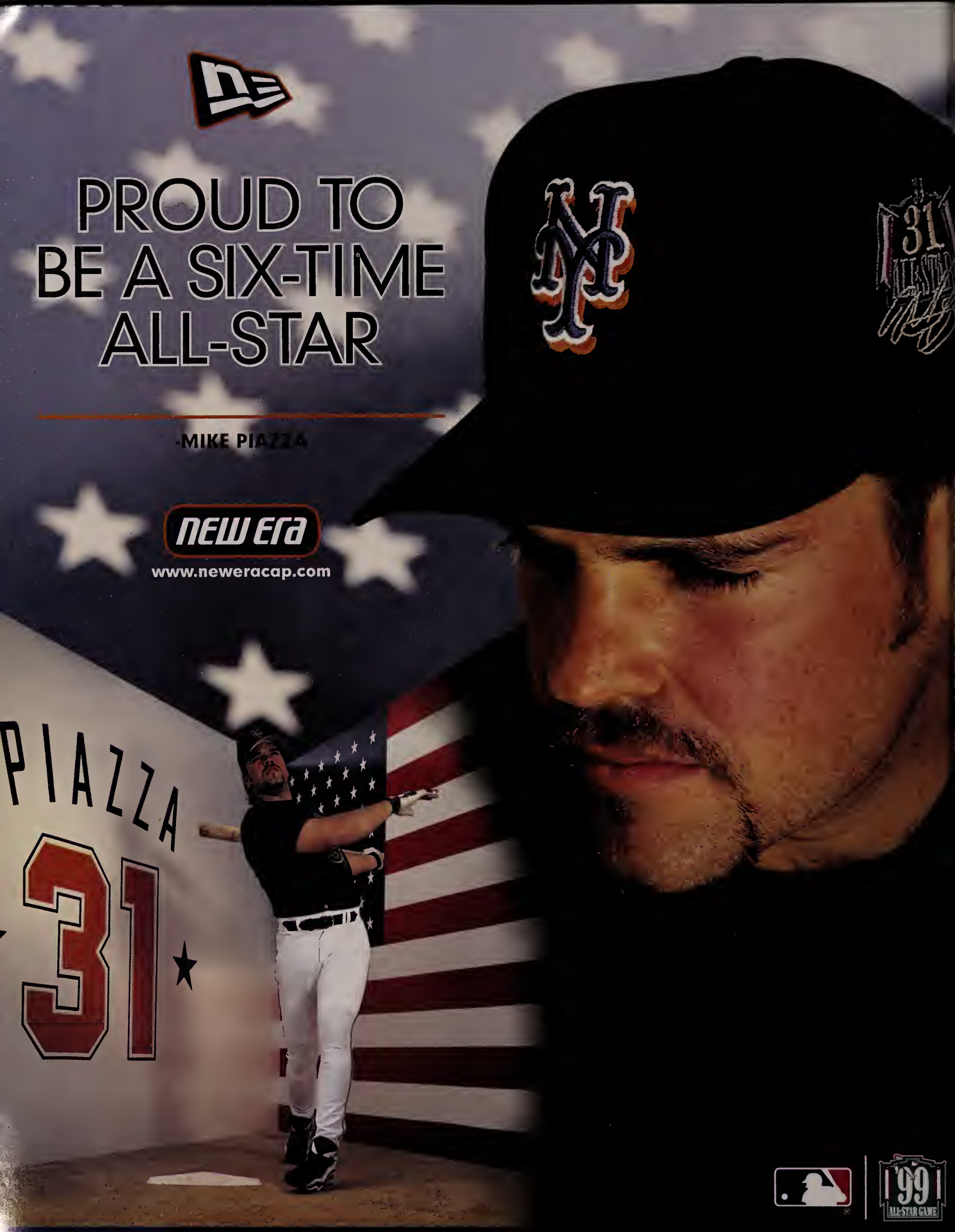
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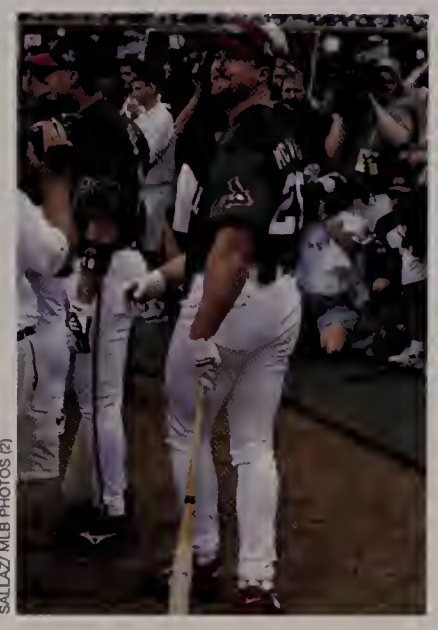
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All-Star Week

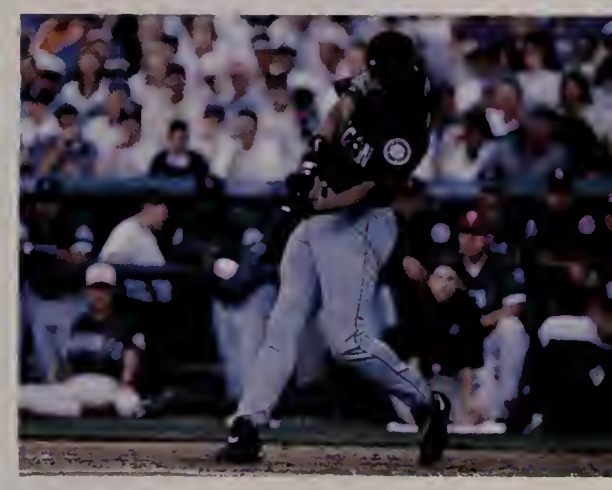
THE GAME'S best longball hitters will put on their annual display of power at the Century 21 Home Run Derby on Monday, July 12 — one of the highlights of All-Star Week. Before the big bats start swinging, all-time home run king Hank Aaron will throw out the contest's ceremonial first pitch. When the competition starts, another record-setting home run hitter, Mark McGwire, could be trying to outblast Ken Griffey Jr., Sammy Sosa, and a host of other muscle-flexing stars. And watch those deep flies...any player to hit one of three "Hit It Here" signs in Fenway Park will earn a randomly selected fan $1 million as part of the MasterCard "Hit It Here" program. Last year, Barry Bonds missed one of those signs by just three feet.

All-Star Sunday, a new event this year, will feature the second annual All-Star Celebrity Hitting Challenge, where baseball greats team up with current Hollywood stars to test their hitting skills against the Green Monster. Some of the participants scheduled to appear include 1999 Hall of Fame inductee George Brett; Academy Award winners Kevin Costner and Matt Damon; 1987 NL MVP Andre Dawson; three-time All-Star Dwight Evans; '75 AL MVP Fred Lynn; and '78 AL MVP Jim Rice.

Immediately following the Hitting Challenge, witness history when the first pitch is thrown at the inaugural All-Star Futures Game (see more on page 24).



SALLAZ/ MLB PHOTOS (2)



McGwire (left) and Griffey took their cuts at last year's HR Derby.

Baseball Heaven

John Hancock ALL-STAR FANFEST

WITH THE John Hancock All-Star FanFest in town, Fenway Park won't be the only place in Boston to join in the fun and excitement of All-Star Week. Celebrating its ninth All-Star FanFest, Major League Baseball is proud to join the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company in extending the All-Star Game experience to Boston fans. Carl Yastrzemski, an 18-time All-Star for the Red Sox, will be the official spokesperson for FanFest, which takes place at the Hynes Convention Center, July 9-13. Here are some of the 40-plus exciting attractions:

*The Diamond: Interactive clinics with players, managers and umpires.

*Major League Baseball Legends: Get FREE autographs from baseball heroes.

*Making of the Game: See how bats, balls and other tools of the game are made right before your eyes!

*The Negro Leagues: A tribute to some of the game's finest players.

*Spring Training: Step into state-of-the-art video batting and pitching cages and take a swing against a video image of Pedro Martinez or throw your best pitch to Mark McGwire or Sammy Sosa.

With these attractions and many more, the John Hancock All-Star FanFest enables fans to experience baseball in ways they've only dreamed about...truly five days of baseball heaven on Earth!





Forever Young

LONG BEFORE the Cy Young Award, the honor bestowed upon each league's best pitcher every season, there was the man himself. Denton True (Cy) Young baffled big league hitters for 22 years, compiling a Major League-record 511 wins, including a dizzying 15 seasons with more than 20 victories and five seasons with more than 30. Baseball fans, young and old, can pay homage to the legendary right-hander by visiting his life-size statue, usually found at Northeastern University, on display at the John Hancock All-Star FanFest, July 9-13.



DAVID LEIFER

On the Air

Television


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FOX

When Major League Baseball brings out its best on Tuesday, July 13 for the 70th annual All-Star Game, so will Fox Sports. The network's lead broadcast team of play-by-play announcer Joe Buck and analysts Tim McCarver and Bob Brenly will call the action, as FOX Sports presents coverage of its second All-Star Game, live and in prime time, 8 p.m., from historic Fenway Park in Boston.

Keith Olbermann and Steve Lyons will anchor pre- and post-game coverage. The Midsummer Classic has a rich and storied history and is traditionally the highest-rated sporting event of the summer and America's top-rated All-Star contest among the four major sports. This year's game is broadcast on FOX's 202 affiliated stations and is available in approximately 95 million homes.

ESPN

Radio


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STEINER

Major League Baseball on ESPN Radio will present live coverage of the All-Star Game from Fenway Park and surrounding festivities.

Charley Steiner and Dave Campbell will broadcast the Midsummer Classic live on Tuesday, July 13, while Rich Eisen and Karl Ravech serve as reporters.

On Monday, July 12, from 8-10 p.m., Steiner, Campbell, Eisen and Rick Sutcliffe will call the Green Monster-scaling action live from the annual Home Run Derby.

MLB PHOTOS

International


SINGLETON


THORNE

A world TV audience of more than 205 countries will watch the Major League Baseball International broadcast of the All-Star Game. MLBI will provide a live TV feed to baseball fans in 13 languages around the globe. Ken Singleton and Gary Thorne will broadcast in English for the world feed. Broadcasters from Mexico, Japan, Venezuela and the Dominican Republic will also be on-site to call the action.

Summer in the Park

Kicking off this year's Midsummer Classic with the U.S. and Canadian national anthems will be Donna Summer and The Moffatts. A Boston native and the owner of five Grammy awards, 14 top-10 pop hits, 12 gold or platinum singles and 11 gold or platinum albums, Summer will sing the U.S. anthem prior to the first pitch.





MARK LIDDELL

The Moffatts, a group from Victoria, B.C., will perform the Canadian anthem. The quartet includes Scott, 15, and his 14-year-old triplet brothers Bob, Clint and Dave. Their hit single "I'll Be There For You" has reached the charts in Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Asia and Canada.

A Splendid Start



UPI/CORBIS-BETTMANN

Ted Williams will try life on the other side on Tuesday, July 13. After terrorizing pitchers for 19 seasons and finishing with a .344 average at the plate, Williams will take the mound and throw out the ceremonial first pitch at the 70th All-Star Game. The legendary Red Sox left fielder also has a pretty good record for playing a major role at All-Star Games in Boston. In 1946, the "Splendid Splinter" had two home runs and five RBI to spark an American League victory in the first Midsummer Classic after World War II. In 1961, at the last All-Star Game played in Boston, the Hall of Famer also threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

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All-Century Team

THIS SUMMER, MasterCard and Major League Baseball will partner in a once-in-a-century program to determine the All-Century Team. The names of 100 players, selected by a panel of media members and baseball historians, will be placed on a ballot for fan voting. The living members of this prestigious list have been invited by Major League Baseball to attend the All-Star Game, where they will be honored at a pregame ceremony on the field. Commissioner Allan H. (Bud) Selig will announce the balloting program, thus launching the fan voting.

Fans can vote for their All-Century Team roster of 25 players during July, August and September. The ballot will consist of both former and current players, and can be found in the *Sports Illustrated* July 26 issue, the July 31 edition of *TV Guide*, designated retailers, majorleaguebaseball.com and participating ballparks. The ballots will be tabulated in late September to determine the All-Century Team. The roster and "Starting Lineup" will be honored in a TV special, narrated by Bob Costas on NBC during the 1999 World Series.

Ruth, Aaron, Cobb, Mays, Griffey, McGwire...take your pick and help Major League Baseball select the greatest baseball players of the 20th century.

The selected roster will also be highlighted in a special book, *All-Century Team*, published by Rare Air Media and Major League Baseball. Look for it in stores this fall or call 1-888-Century to order your copy.









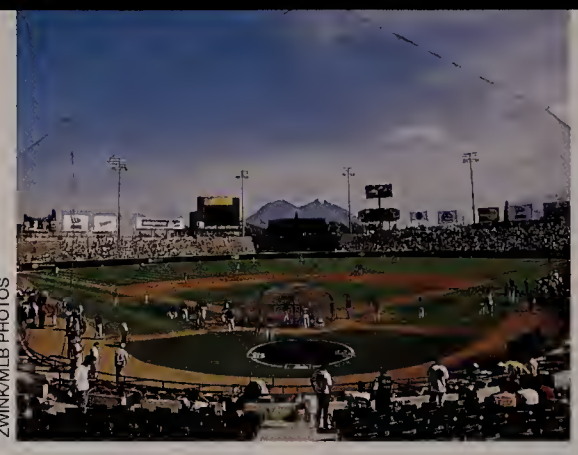
Where legends were born, clockwise from top left: Wrigley Field, Crosley Field, Ebbets Field, Yankee Stadium, the Polo Grounds and Tiger Stadium.





MLB PHOTOS (ALL)

The Global Game



ZWINK/MLB PHOTOS

Monterrey hosted MLB's season opener (left). Cuba visited Camden Yards in May (far left).



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

THIS PAST May, when the Orioles hosted the Cuban National Team at Camden Yards for the finale of a historic two-game series, Baltimore outfielder B.J. Surhoff succinctly stated, "Anytime we can play baseball and expand the horizons of our game, it's a good thing."

Surhoff's allusion to the globalization of the sport simply highlights an exciting movement taking place in Major League Baseball, one that brings big league action to enthusiastic baseball fans outside the U.S.

The Baltimore-Cuba series was just one of several instances since last November in which players showcased their talents abroad — from an eight-game tour of All-Stars in Japan to a two-game showdown between the Mets and Expos in the Dominican Republic during Spring Training, to MLB's '99 season opener between the Padres and Rockies in Monterrey, Mexico.

When the Orioles played in Havana in March, it marked the first time in 40 years that a Major League team played in Cuba. Each team nabbed a victory on the other's turf in what Surhoff called a "playoff-type atmosphere."

Such is the excitement of Major League Baseball as it expands its global reach heading into the 21st century.

Baseball...2021 Style

MAJOR LEAGUE Baseball zips into the future through the innovative Century 21 "Turn Ahead the Clock Series." Throughout the season, fans will be able to fast-forward the hands of time and beam ahead to the year 2021 to experience and celebrate baseball in the next millennium. For a month following the All-Star Game, Century 21 will stage a series of at least 14 "Turn Ahead the Clock" games.

This season, from coast to coast, fans don't have to own turbo-powered cars to reach this remote destination. A game ticket is all you'll need to enjoy the greatest sport in the universe.

Watch your favorite team battle a bitter rival while both clubs dress in futuristic uniforms and caps. Keep track of the ballgame with creatively renamed field positions and sing along to futuristic music...all coming to a ballpark near you. The future is here.



Ken Griffey Jr. (below) and Edgar Martinez (left) at the Kingdome's "Turn Ahead the Clock Night" last July. Below left: A taste of some "future" logos for this year.



RAY DIORIO (LEFT,BOTTOM)





VAN HOUTEN/MLB PHOTOS


CUBICLES BY DAY.
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Get in Gear



RAY DIORIO (ALL)

It's all in the clothes: The 1999 All-Star Game cap and BP jerseys.

No All-Star Game would be complete without authentic Major League Baseball All-Star gear. This year's All-Stars will wear sleek new Majestic jerseys at Workout Day and during batting practice prior to the Midsummer Classic. The micro-mesh sleeveless vests come with color-coordinating undershirts, the player's league on the front, an alternate All-Star logo on the chest, along with his name and team's logo on the back.

In addition, players and coaches don a special New Era All-Star cap featuring their team's logo, All-Star Game artwork and their own autograph. As always, the 1999 All-Star Game logo will be visible on each player's right sleeve.

Magic 8 Ball

1999 ALL-STAR FUTURES GAME™

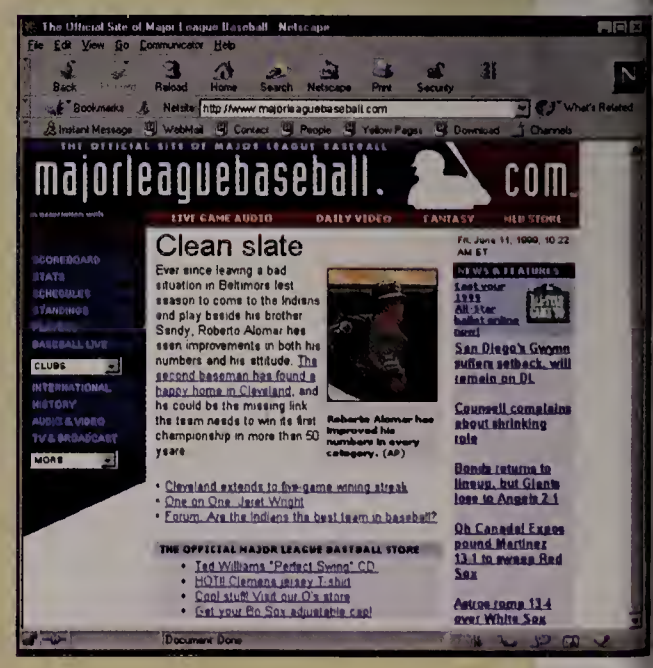
Want to know which players will be stars in the next few years? You can find out, as baseball's best prospects join the impressive collection of Major League talent at this year's All-Star Game. Major League Baseball and *Baseball America* present the inaugural All-Star Futures Game on Sunday, July 11, with the finest young talent in the game on display. A team of the 24 best prospects from the U.S. will take on a squad of the top 24 international prospects in a seven-inning game at Fenway Park. Every Major League Baseball organization will have at least one player in the contest.

Out of Site!

Major League Baseball's official website re-launched in mid-June with an updated look and new features, providing baseball fans the most comprehensive experience on the Internet.

Log on to the site during All-Star Week and check out live audio and video press conferences, player interviews, a historical look at each All-Star Game, up-to-the-minute photos and in-depth stories straight from the field.

The new majorleaguebaseball.com includes live game audio broadcasts, daily and historical video highlights, real-time statistics and updates, along with team and player information. Additionally, it will contain special historical and kids features, officially licensed merchandise and fantasy competitions. Don't miss the interactive features, including playable online games and Baseball Live, which provides real-time, pitch-by-pitch coverage of every game in an exciting, animated format.



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Come see it all at a free exhibition in our New York galleries, September 17–23 and order the lavishly illustrated sale catalogue containing descriptions of every item.

The auction will be held in two parts; first in Sotheby's New York auction room from September 23–29, followed by a sale on the internet.

Call 212.606.7122 for more information, visit our galleries at 1334 York Avenue or log on to www.sothebys.com.

It's a sale full of precious memories. Don't miss the opportunity to take one home.



The Babe's Last Bat,
Lot Number 88,
Auction estimate:
$50,000–100,000

Babe Ruth Autographed Baseball, Lot Number 556,
Auction estimate:
$2,000–3,000

Babe Ruth's Rookie Card,
Lot Number 846,
Auction estimate:
$40,000–50,000



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SOTHEBY'S

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Get in the Zone

EVER THINK you'd see Omar Vizquel on a jet ski, Charles Johnson back at his high school desk or Jaret Wright on a surfboard? If you check out *In the Zone* on FOX, that's exactly what you'll get to see. A fast-paced, half-hour magazine style show targeted at kids, *In the Zone* features highlights, bloopers and a little off-beat instruction from some of baseball's greatest players.

Superstars such as Ken Griffey Jr. and Mike Piazza appear in weekly segments. In "Junior's Jargon," Griffey explains some of baseball's more colorful phrases (what is a "frozen rope," anyway?) against a musical backdrop scored by rapper Ice Cube. Piazza shows his baseball knowledge off the field in "Takin' it to the Fields," challenging kids to answer his baseball questions.

Steve Lyons is your host through this wild baseball ride and will share several episodes of *In the Zone* hosting duties with special co-hosts such as 'N Sync, Jermaine Dye and Johnny Damon of the Royals, in addition to Chyna and HHH of the World Wrestling Federation.

For a different spin on Major League Baseball, check out *In the Zone* on FOX — Saturdays at 12:30 p.m. ET/PT — just a half-hour before the FOX Saturday Baseball Game of the Week.

Youth Is Served



"TAKIN' IT to the Fields" steps up to the plate in 1999 for another great season. Now in its second year, Pepsi's grassroots initiative is active in 58 cities across 22 states and involves more than 52,000 youth baseball and softball teams.

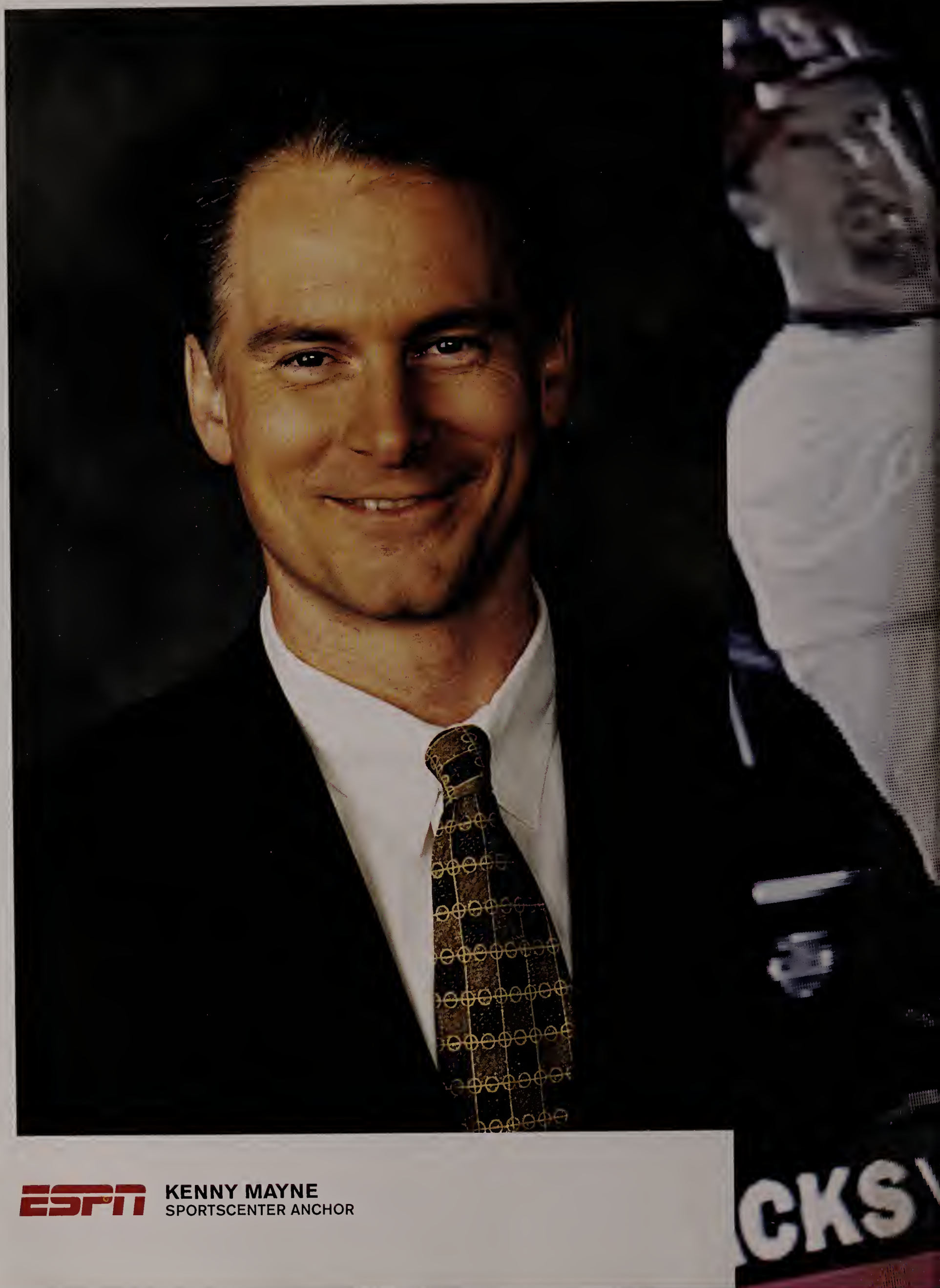
As participants in the program, each team receives an exclusive cooler from Pepsi — an official sponsor of Major League Baseball — containing a coach's scorebook with all the baseball essentials: season scoring pages, batting, hitting and fielding tips, lineup and substitution cards and much more. It's all packed together with Pizza Hut and free Pepsi coupons. Each team will then be entered into a national sweepstakes to win an all-expense paid trip to Spring Training in 2000.

Max Out

ALL SEASON long, *Baseball MAX* delivers Major League Baseball's best performances on the field, and best stories off the field, to a worldwide audience.

The cutting-edge style of *Baseball MAX* spotlights the game's most dynamic and charismatic stars. *MAX* shows why the top players in the game are so great at what they do and takes viewers behind the scenes to see what they're really like when they're not in front of thousands of cheering fans. You'll also find revealing features, heart-pounding highlights and eye-popping plays in our "MAX Out" segment each week.

Watch *Baseball Max* for 30 minutes of great baseball action, every week on FOX Sports Net. Be sure to check local listings, and majorleaguebaseball.com for the latest clips all season long.



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SPORTSCENTER ANCHOR


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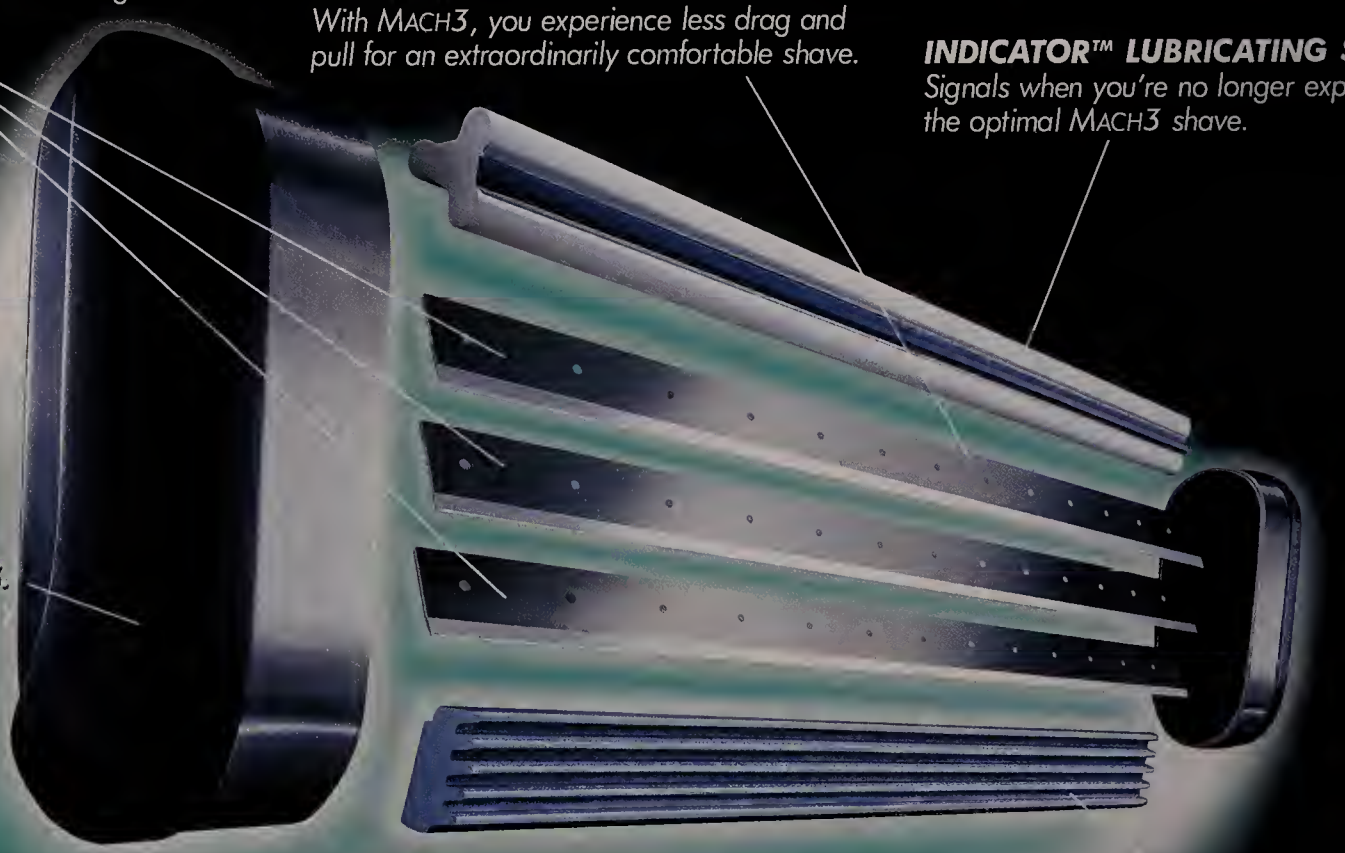
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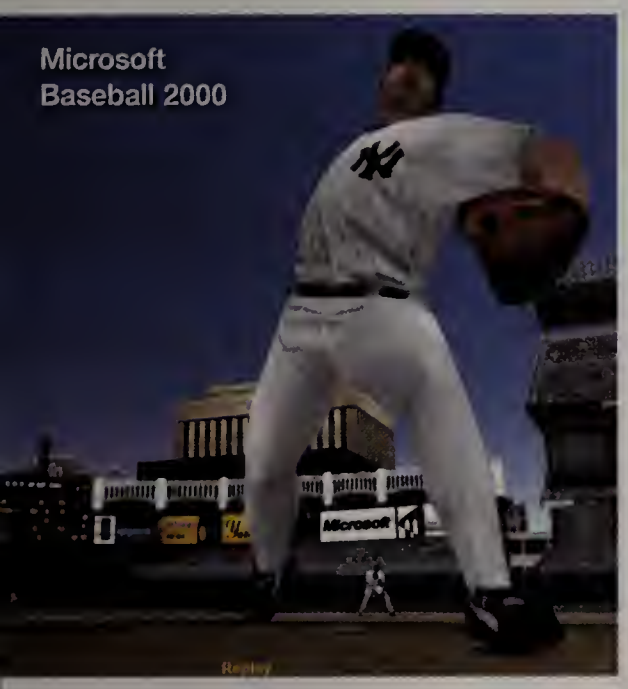
The Best a Man Can Get™

Game Time

FANS OF Major League Baseball can get in the game year-round with any of eight new officially licensed video games. This year's new titles bring diehards the cyber-sensation of real Major League action. Each game offers "motion capture animation" that brings the actual movements of ballplayers to your fingertips, along with stunning high-resolution 3D graphics, brilliant detail designs of big league stadiums and 3D Dolby Surround sound.

The titles include:
3DO "High Heat Baseball 2000"
989 Sports "MLB 2000"
Acclaim Entertainment "All-Star Baseball 2000"
Accolade "Hardball 6-2000 Edition"
EA Sports "Triple Play 2000"
Interplay Sports "Baseball 2000"
Microsoft "Microsoft Baseball 2000"
Nintendo "Ken Griffey Jr.'s Slugfest"

The only action closer than this is in the dugout.





Safe at Home

WITH FIVE new titles this year, the Major League Baseball Home Video line gives fans the best of baseball and plenty to keep them entertained once the final out has been recorded. This year's releases include *MLB '98: The Record Breakers, Generations of Heroes*, *Superstar Shortstops*, *MLB's All-Century Team*, and, of course, *The 1999 World Series Home Video*. Will your team be pictured on the cover this year? Look for the complete line of MLB Home Videos from Major League Baseball Productions and PolyGram Home Video. You'll be safe at home.



Girls of Summer

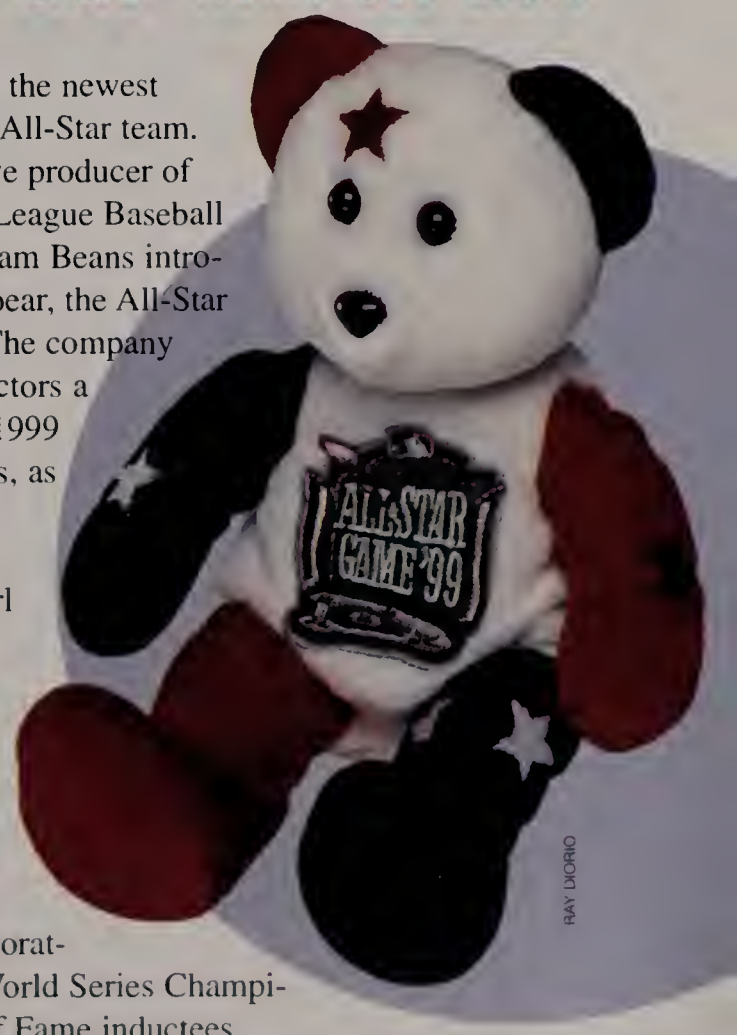
THANKS TO an exciting new partnership between Major League Baseball and Mattel, Inc., Barbie suits up in baseball garb this summer. To celebrate Barbie doll's 40th anniversary, she becomes an honorary member of the New York Yankees, Los Angeles Dodgers and Chicago Cubs as Major League Baseball Barbie. Mattel, Inc. is launching both Caucasian and African-American versions of the doll.

Barbie doll wears an authentic home uniform of the respective team, complete with dugout jacket, jersey, pants with attached belt, shoes, cap and stirrups all adorned with the team's logos. She comes with a Rawlings baseball, Wilson glove and a real wooden Louisville Slugger bat. The dolls will appeal to Barbie and baseball fans alike, and are available at toy stores nationwide, or by calling 1-800-232-5939.



The Bear Maximum

TEAM BEANS is the newest member of the All-Star team. As the exclusive producer of official Major League Baseball plush bears, Team Beans introduced its first bear, the All-Star bear, in June. The company will offer collectors a 12-bear set of 1999 All-Star players, as well as a bear honoring Red Sox legend Carl Yastrzemski. Team Beans also plans to release bears representing all 30 clubs, as well as special bears commemorating the 1999 World Series Champions and Hall of Fame inductees.

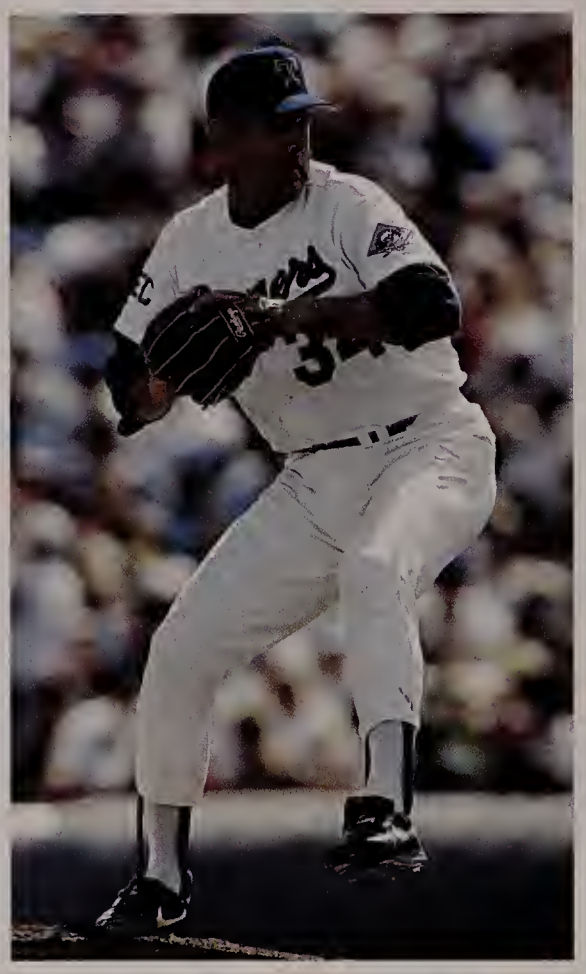


Class of '99

FOUR OF the game's all-time greats headline the class of 1999 Hall of Fame inductees who will be enshrined in Cooperstown this summer. Nolan Ryan, George Brett, Robin Yount and Orlando Cepeda will take their places among the legends of the game on July 25, 1999. Ryan, who played 27 seasons and finished as baseball's all-time strikeout king, was the author of seven no-hitters. Brett, the first player to win batting titles in three different decades, finished his 21-year career with the Royals with 3,154 hits. Yount, who played both shortstop and center field during his 20-year career with the Brewers, won two MVP awards. Cepeda, who slammed 379 homers in his 17-year career, was a unanimous NL MVP selection in 1968. Umpire Nestor Chylak, manager Frank Selee and Negro League fireballer Joe Williams will also be inducted.



MLB PHOTOS





The 1999 Baseball Hall of Fame inductees include, clockwise from right: George Brett, Robin Yount, Nolan Ryan and Orlando Cepeda.



PILLINGMLB PHOTOS (ALL)

Jif Smooth Sensations Presents

CLUB MLB ROAD SHOW℠

Hitting the Road

THIS SUMMER, Major League Baseball launched the inaugural tour of the Club MLB Road Show presented by Jif Smooth Sensations. The tour includes two semi tractor-trailer vehicles that convert into a baseball-inspired playground complete with hands-on baseball action and historic memorabilia. The multi-media interactive touring vehicles transform into a giant fantasy baseball camp, equipped with batting and pitching cages, interactive computer kiosks, radio broadcast booths and much more. The Club MLB Road Show will visit marquee events, fairs, festivals and ballparks across the U.S. until October 2000. Log on to majorleaguebaseball.com for more info and the tour schedule.

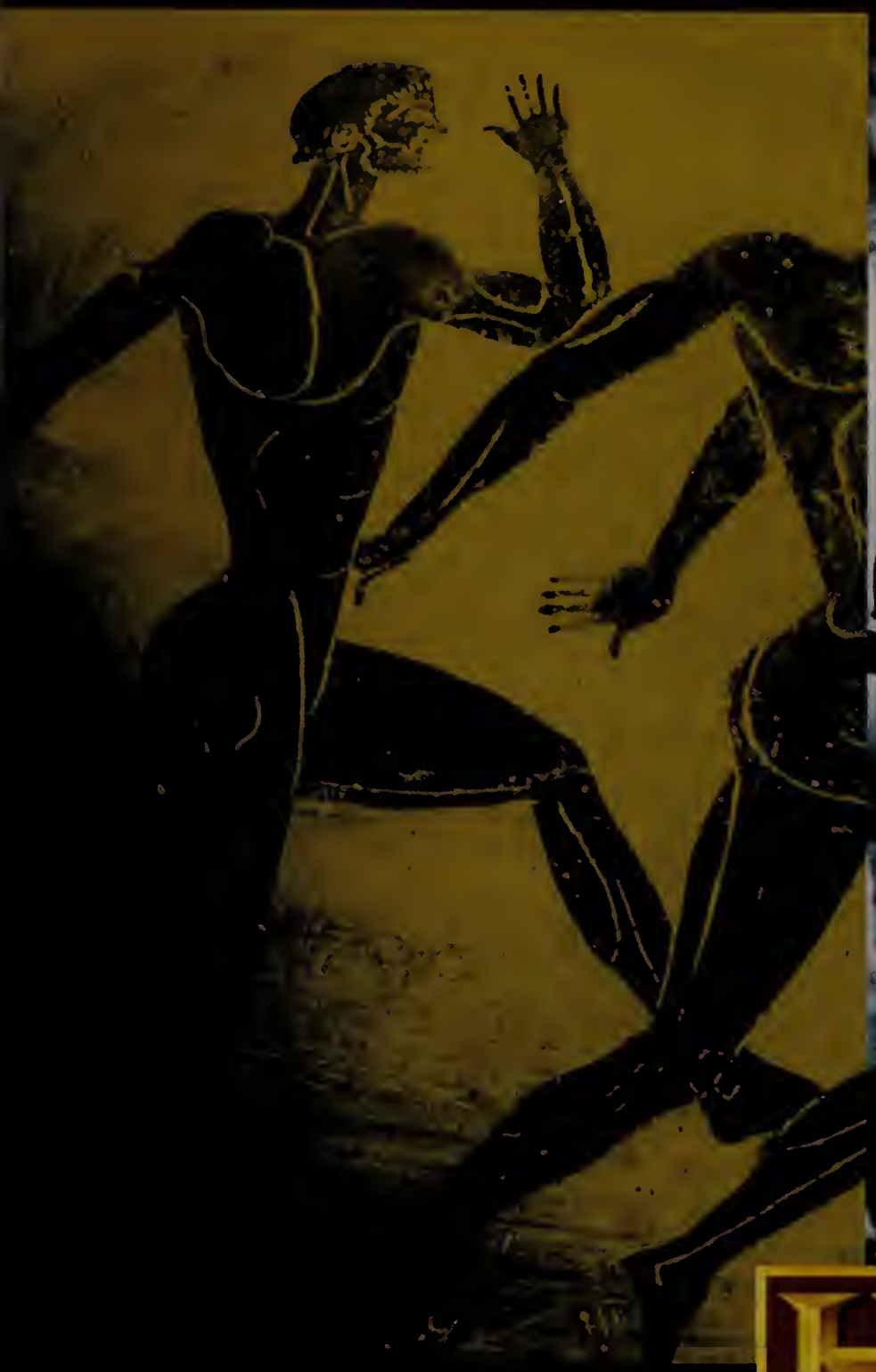
Brave New Field

BASEBALL'S BRIGHTEST stars will visit Atlanta for the first Midsummer Classic of the 21st century. Turner Field, which was opened in April of 1997, will host its first All-Star Game in 2000, though this is not the first for the city of Atlanta. In 1972, at Fulton County Stadium, the National League defeated the Americans, 4-3, powered by hometown hero Hank Aaron's two-run home run in the sixth and Joe Morgan's game-winning RBI single in the bottom of the 10th.



CUNNINGHAM/MLB PHOTOS

THE OFFICIAL NETWORK OF EVERY MILLENNIUM





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*January 1999 Equitrend research. **January 1999 Beta research

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JOE DIMAGGIO IS GONE, BUT THE YANKEE CLIPPER WILL NOT BE FORGOTTEN.

Eternal Hero

ONCE, THE DAY HE WAS INDUCTED INTO THE Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame, Joe DiMaggio told me a story about his parents, the immigrant fisherman and his wife, neither of whom could read English. When their son, Joe, was playing for the San Francisco Seals in the Pacific Coast League, before he made it to the Majors, the elder DiMaggio used to get up at three or four each morning, go out to the street and buy an early edition of the *San Francisco Chronicle.* He would turn to the front page of the sports section, which was printed on green paper, and he would look for the customary box score from the Seals' latest game. Then he would count down three names, find the name "DiMaggio" and look at the numbers next to the name. He could read the numbers, read how many at-bats, runs and hits his son had recorded. "If I had three hits or more," Joe told me, "he would go back to their room and wake up my mother. If I had less than three hits, he would let her sleep."

This is the 70th All-Star Game, and the first to be played outside the lifetime of Joe DiMaggio. For decades, until he died earlier this year at the age of 84, DiMaggio was known almost universally as "the greatest living baseball player." He was an all-time All-Star, the man who stood far above his baseball contemporaries in two categories that defy statistical analysis: charisma and grace.

In fact, if charisma were measurable, DiMaggio would have only two rivals: one, fittingly, an athlete; the other, perhaps fittingly, too, an actress. DiMaggio was a recognizable and respected celebrity for more than sixty years, an icon from the mid-1930s until the late-'90s, a reign matched by only one other American, Katharine Hepburn. And in retirement, from the field, but not from the spotlight, DiMaggio's presence was equaled by only one other athlete's, Muhammad Ali's. Long after the last punch and the last base hit, the two took command of every room they entered.

In grace, on the baseball field, DiMaggio had no rivals; no one who could make the difficult look so routine, who could hit and throw with such understated elegance. So many athletes make a spectacular catch or hit a spectacular home run, and then put on a spectacular self-congratulatory display, as if no one, including themselves, had

BY DICK SCHAAP ▮ ILLUSTRATION BY JAMES WAY

ever made such a catch or hit such a home run before. DiMaggio's reaction to his own extraordinary feats was so calm, so matter-of-fact, you knew he had done the same thing many times before.

Statistics do not come close to doing DiMaggio justice. He had a lifetime batting average of .325, career totals of 361 home runs and 1,537 runs batted in, figures that do not place him among the game's top 30 in any of those traditional yardsticks of hitting ability. But if you look at what he did before World War II took away the heart of his career (he was away from the age of 28 through 30), the numbers are startling. In seven seasons before he entered the service, he had a batting average of .340, with an average of 31 home runs and 121 runs batted in per season; extend those numbers over a 16-year career, and DiMaggio would be in the top 15 in all three categories. Only two players in the history of the game accomplished this feat: Ted Williams, whose career, too, was abbreviated by warfare, and Lou Gehrig, whose career was cut short by illness.

DiMaggio's All-Star statistics are not imposing, but he brought to the All-Star Game those qualities that defined his life, charisma and grace.

DIMAGGIO WAS, ABOVE ALL ELSE, A WINNER.

He doesn't hold a single All-Star Game batting record — Williams and Willie Mays dominate those fields — but it is impossible to imagine an All-Star Game without him.

DiMaggio had a terrific day in the 1943 All-Star Game at Shibe Park in Philadelphia. He had a single, a triple, and a home run, perhaps the finest day of his career…for Vincent Paul DiMaggio. (His younger brothers, Joseph Paul and Dominic Paul, missed the game; both were serving in the U.S. Army.)

But it was Joe who made the All-Star Game his annual showcase. Starting in his rookie year in 1936 and extending into his final season in 1951, Joe D was selected for the All-Star team every year he was in Yankee pinstripes, and not in military uniform. He was named to 13 All-Star teams in his 13 seasons, the only man whose career lasted a decade or longer to be so honored every year.

Clearly, Joe DiMaggio was one of the attractions of the All-Star Game, one of the main reasons the game has survived and flourished for 66 years. Fans in National League ballparks got their first look at Joe in the middle of 1936, his rookie year, as he was on his way to batting .323 in the regular season, .346 in the World Series. He did not do quite so well at Braves Field (the first time the All-Star Game was played in Boston). He went 0 for 5 and committed a critical error, a distinctly unDiMaggio-like performance.



Top: Joe D is flanked by his brothers and fellow All-Stars, Vince (left) and Dominic. Bottom: The Yankee Clipper displays his sweet swing that helped produce the longest hitting streak of all time.

DiMaggio got his first All-Star hit and scored his first All-Star run in his second game, hit his first and only All-Star home run in his fourth game and had his best All-Star Game the 11th time he was chosen, in 1949, with a single, a double and three runs batted in. Twice he was selected but did not play, and once he appeared only as a pinch-hitter. Surprisingly, both his brothers had better All-Star records than he had: Dom batted .353 in the seven times he was selected, and Vince, who played only in the field in his second and final All-Star Game, wound up with a perfect 1.000 batting average, 3 for 3. All three of the brothers played center field in most of their All-Star appearances.

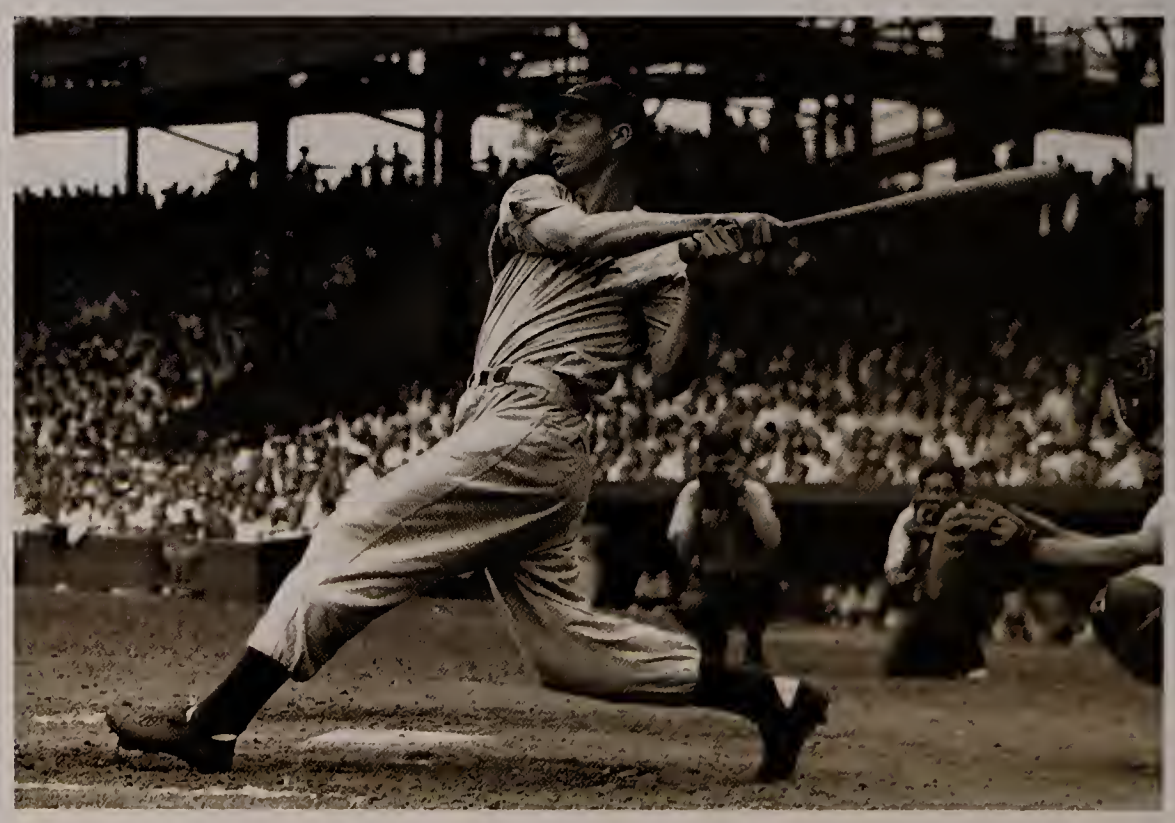
But if Joe DiMaggio had never gotten a hit in an All-Star Game, he still would have left an indelible mark upon the game and the sport. He was, above all else, a winner. In his 13 seasons, his Yankees went to the World Series 10 times, and won nine titles. He was also a monument. He married the most glamorous actress in the world, Marilyn Monroe, and he was celebrated in song by one of America's most notable musicians, Paul Simon, and in prose by one of America's most notable novelists, Ernest Hemingway. "The Great DiMaggio," Hemingway's aging fisherman called him in *The Old Man and the Sea*. "A nation turns its lonely eyes to you," Simon wrote.

The Great DiMaggio is gone now, but there are millions of eyes that can still see him vividly.

A painting of DiMaggio hangs on my office wall. Joe inscribed it to me one of the last times I saw him. "From one old timer to another," he wrote. "Best wishes, Joe DiMaggio."

Hey Joe, I was only one year old when you played in your first All-Star Game. ◆

Dick Schaap is an award-winning author and hosts ESPN's weekly show, The Sports Reporters.



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (TOP); UPI/CORBIS-BETTMANN (BOTTOM)

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THIS WHO'S WHO OF ALL-STARS, PAST AND PRESENT, HAS MADE THE MIDSUMMER CLASSIC ITS ANNUAL STOMPING GROUND.

ALL TIME STARS

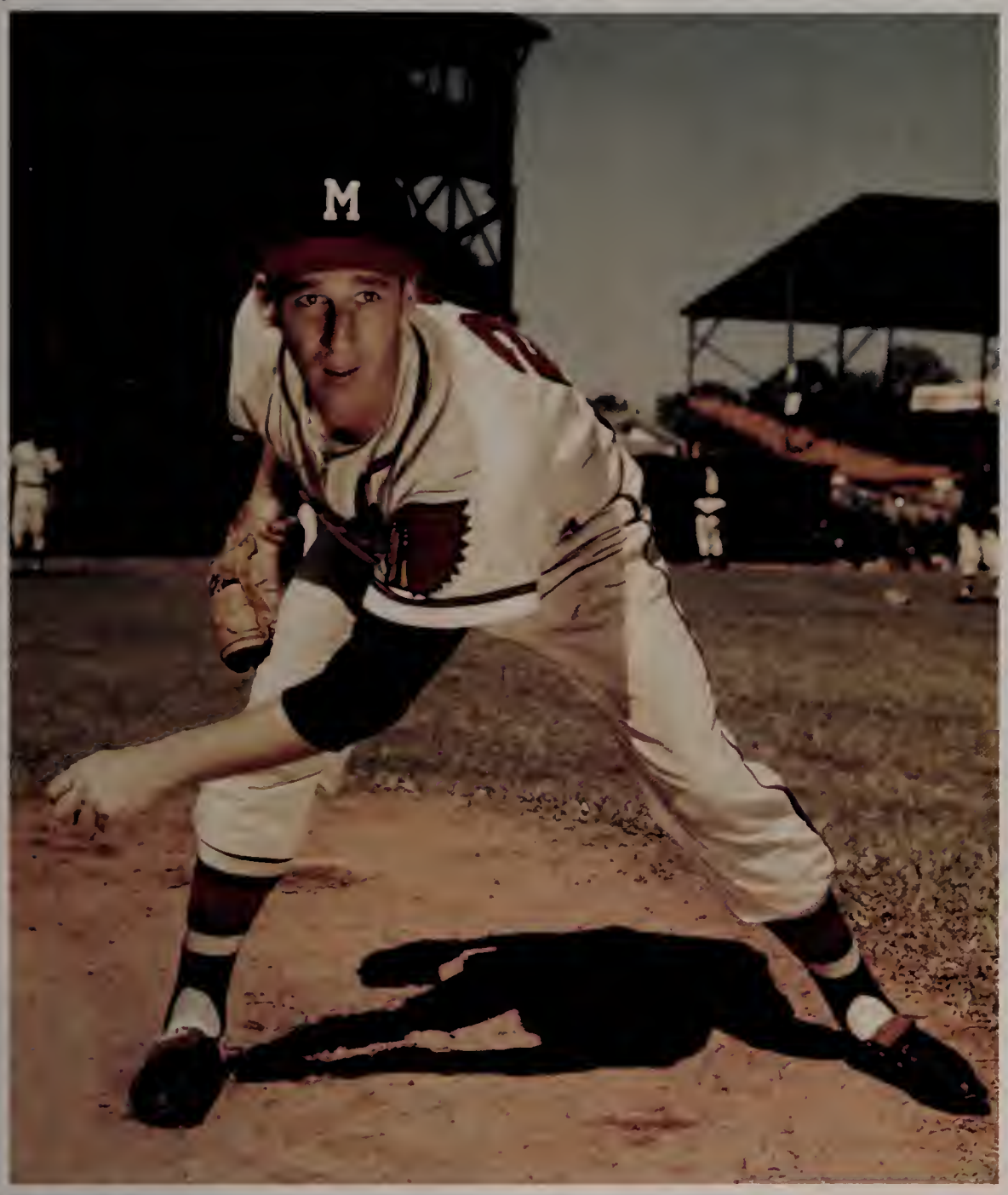
As Major League Baseball plays its final All-Star Game of the 20th century, at historic Fenway Park, we saw this as a fitting occasion to recognize the stars among stars — that's right, the players who have been All-Stars most often.

Our criterion was simple: tally the number of times a player made an All-Star roster since the inception of the Midsummer Classic in 1933. To complement this special "All-time Nine," we added what turns out to be an explosive lineup of active leaders from each position, based on their ASG selections through '98.

As you'll see, both lineups are loaded with Hall of Fame talent. Now if we could only get these two teams to battle each other for nine innings! Imagine Warren Spahn firing away to Gwynn, McGwire and Griffey, while his counterpart, Roger Clemens or Greg Maddux (choose your poison!), stares down at Musial, Aaron and Mays. Yikes!

THE LINEUPS

	All-time	Active
1	Carew, 1B	Henderson, LF
2	Fox, 2B	Boggs, 3B
3	Musial, LF	Gwynn, RF
4	Aaron, RF	McGwire, 1B
5	Mays, CF	Griffey, CF
6	Berra, C	Ripken, SS
7	Ripken, SS	Alomar, 2B
8	Robinson, 3B	Rodriguez, C
9	Spahn, P	Clemens/Maddux, P



ALL-TIME

WARREN SPAHN

16 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

The game's all-time winningest lefty (363) posted 20-win seasons an astounding 13 times — including six in a row — while maintaining a workhorse approach that resulted in an incredible 382 complete games.

Years Played: 1942-1965

Hall of Fame: 1973

ASG Stats: 1-0, 3.21 ERA (3 starts), 14 IP, 10 K

Career:

G	IP	W	L	ERA
750	5,243.2	363	245	3.09

Best Year: 1953 (23-7, 2.10 ERA, 24 CG, 5 SH)

Magic Number: 57 — percent of complete games in career starts (382 of 665)

Best Known For: A workhorse style and never giving an inch to the enemy

Honors: NL Cy Young 1957

Top Rank: #2: 20-win seasons (13)

#4: Strikeouts by a lefty (2,583)

#5: 200+ inning seasons: (17)

ACTIVE

ROGER CLEMENS

7 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"He reminds me so much of Tom Seaver, it's scary. I'm talking about work habits, character, control and God-given talent... He's very competitive, but that's evident to anyone who has seen him. His kind doesn't come around very often." *–Former Red Sox manager John McNamara*

GREG MADDUX

7 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"Greg's awards and records speak for themselves. He is a four-time Cy Young winner and one of the few pitchers in baseball who has the ability to dissect the plate. The fans love to see him work."

–Atlanta manager Bobby Cox

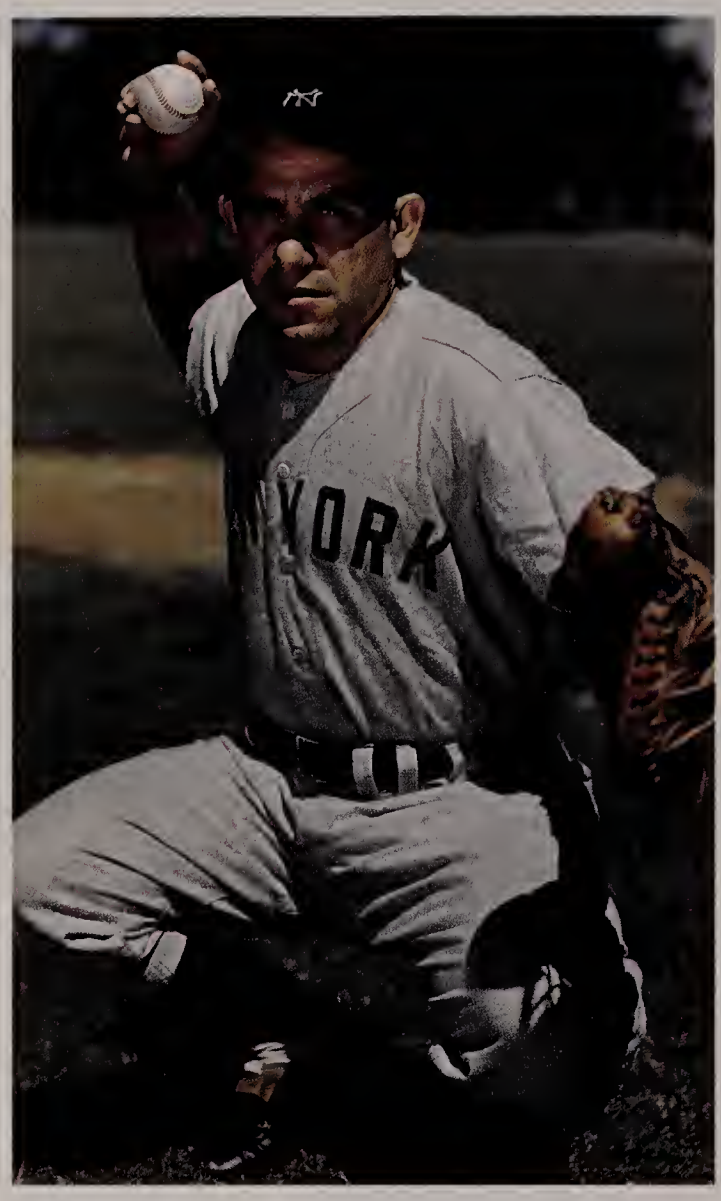
MLB PHOTOS (SPAHN) PHOTOFILE (CLEMENS) MLB PHOTOS (MADDUX)

ALL-TIME STARS

ALL-TIME CATCHER

YOGI BERRA

18 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



The king of colorful quotes — "Baseball is ninety percent mental. The other half is physical." — also ruled at the plate, where he smacked 358 homers, while playing on 14 pennant winners and 10 World Champions.

Years Played: 1946-1965

Hall of Fame: 1972

ASG Stats: 8 for 41 (.195), 1 HR

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,120	7,555	2,150	358	1,430	.285

Best Year: 1954 (.307 BA, 22 HR, 125 RBI, 29 SO)

Magic Number: 16 –– years participating in World Series: 14 as a player, two as a manager ('64 Yankees and '73 Mets)

Best Known For: Bear-hugging Don Larsen after perfect game in 1956 World Series

Honors: AL MVP 1951, '54, '55

Top Rank: #3: Home runs by a catcher (306)



ACTIVE

IVAN RODRIGUEZ

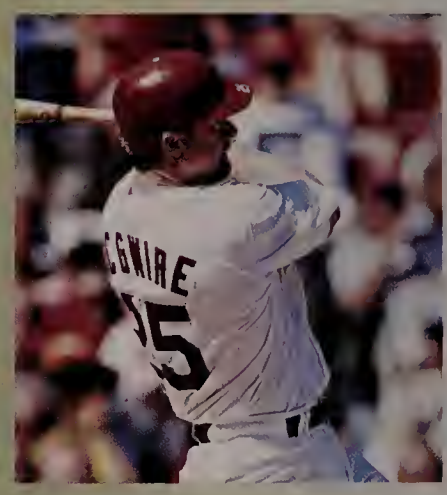
7 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

"There's nobody like him. Take all the tools: catching, throwing, arm strength, hitting for average, and nobody is higher across the board." *–Texas manager Johnny Oates*

ACTIVE

MARK McGWIRE

10 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"The one creepy thought I have when he comes up there is the fear that he'll hit my best pitch right back up the middle. He's the one guy in baseball who could hit a ball that goes in one side of you and comes out the other, and it would be going just as fast when it came out."

–Philadelphia ace Curt Schilling



PHOTO FILE/MLB PHOTOS (BERRA, FOX); MLB PHOTOS (MCGWIRE); MANGIN/MLB PHOTOS (RODRIGUEZ); REIG/MLB PHOTOS (ALOMAR); AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (CAREW)



1B

ALL-TIME
ROD CAREW

18 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

Base hits — 3,053 of them to every location in the ballpark — were the bread-and-butter for this seven-time batting champ whose average resided above .300 for an amazing 15 consecutive seasons.

Years Played: 1967-1985

Hall of Fame: 1991

ASG Stats: 10 for 41 (.244)

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,469	9,315	3,053	92	1,015	.328

Best Year: 1977 (.388 BA, 239 H, 128 R, .452 OBP)

Magic Number: .388 — batting average in 1977, highest in Majors in 20 years

Best Known For: Spraying singles across every inch of the field

Honors: AL Rookie of the Year 1967

AL MVP 1977

Top Rank: #4: Years leading league in batting (7)

#4: Consecutive .300 seasons (15)



2B

ALL-TIME
NELLIE FOX

15 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

The art of making contact was elevated to astonishing heights by this light-hitting (35 career homers) but scrappy 150-pounder who never struck out more than 18 times in one season.

Years Played: 1947-1965

Hall of Fame: 1997

ASG Stats: 14 for 38 (.368)

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,367	9,232	2,663	35	790	.288

Best Year: 1954 (.319 BA, 201 H, 111 R, 12 SO)

Magic Number: 42.7/1 — ratio of at-bats (9,232) versus strikeouts (216) during career

Best Known For: Uncanny ability to set the table for the big bashers

Honors: AL MVP 1959

Top Rank: #3: Strikeout to at-bat ratio (1 every 42.7)

#8: Gold Gloves by a second baseman (3)

ACTIVE
ROBERTO ALOMAR

9 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"Robbie is a star quality player. He can start a rally by getting on base or drive in runs with a big hit. And in the postseason, he's tough to pitch to. He can hit a home run, make the big defensive play, steal a base." *–Cleveland GM John Hart*

3B

ALL-TIME
BROOKS ROBINSON

18 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



Widely considered one of the game's finest defenders, this "Hoover" won games with his glove and owns numerous fielding records for third basemen, including the position's highest career fielding percentage (.971).

Years Played: 1955-1977

Hall of Fame: 1983

ASG Stats: 13 for 45 (.289), 1 HR

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,896	10,654	2,848	268	1,357	.267

Best Year: 1964 (.317 BA, 28 HR, 118 RBI, .972 FA)

Magic Number: 150+ — games played in 14 of 15 regular seasons between 1960-74

Best Known For: "Single-handedly" winning 1970 World Series (according to many) with brilliant defense

Honors: AL MVP 1964, World Series MVP 1970

Top Rank: #1: Years played with one club (23)
#1: Gold gloves by a third baseman (16)

SS

ALL-TIME
CAL RIPKEN JR.

16 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



Baseball's modern-day Iron Man loves to compete and knows you can't do that from the bench. Although he has been shifted to third base, Ripken (our only double entry) spent much of his career revolutionizing the shortstop position.

Years Played: 1982-present

ASG Stats: 11 for 43 (.256), 1 HR

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,704	10,433	2,878	384	1,514	.276

Best Year: 1991 (.323 BA, 34 HR, 114 RBI)

Magic Number: 2,632 — without calling in sick

Best Known For: The Streak

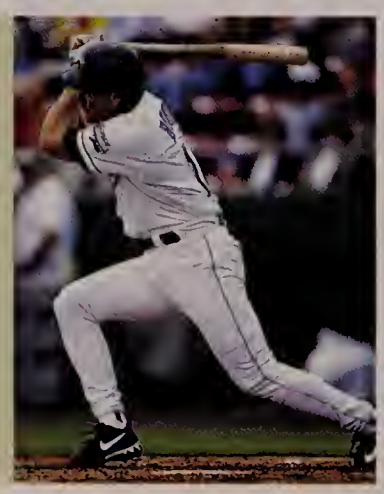
Honors: AL Rookie of the Year 1982; AL MVP 1983, '91

Top Rank: #1: Home runs by a shortstop (345)

ACTIVE
WADE BOGGS

12 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

"Wade was born to hit. Absolutely, the way a shark was born to eat, Shakespeare was born to write and Secretariat was born to run."
–Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson

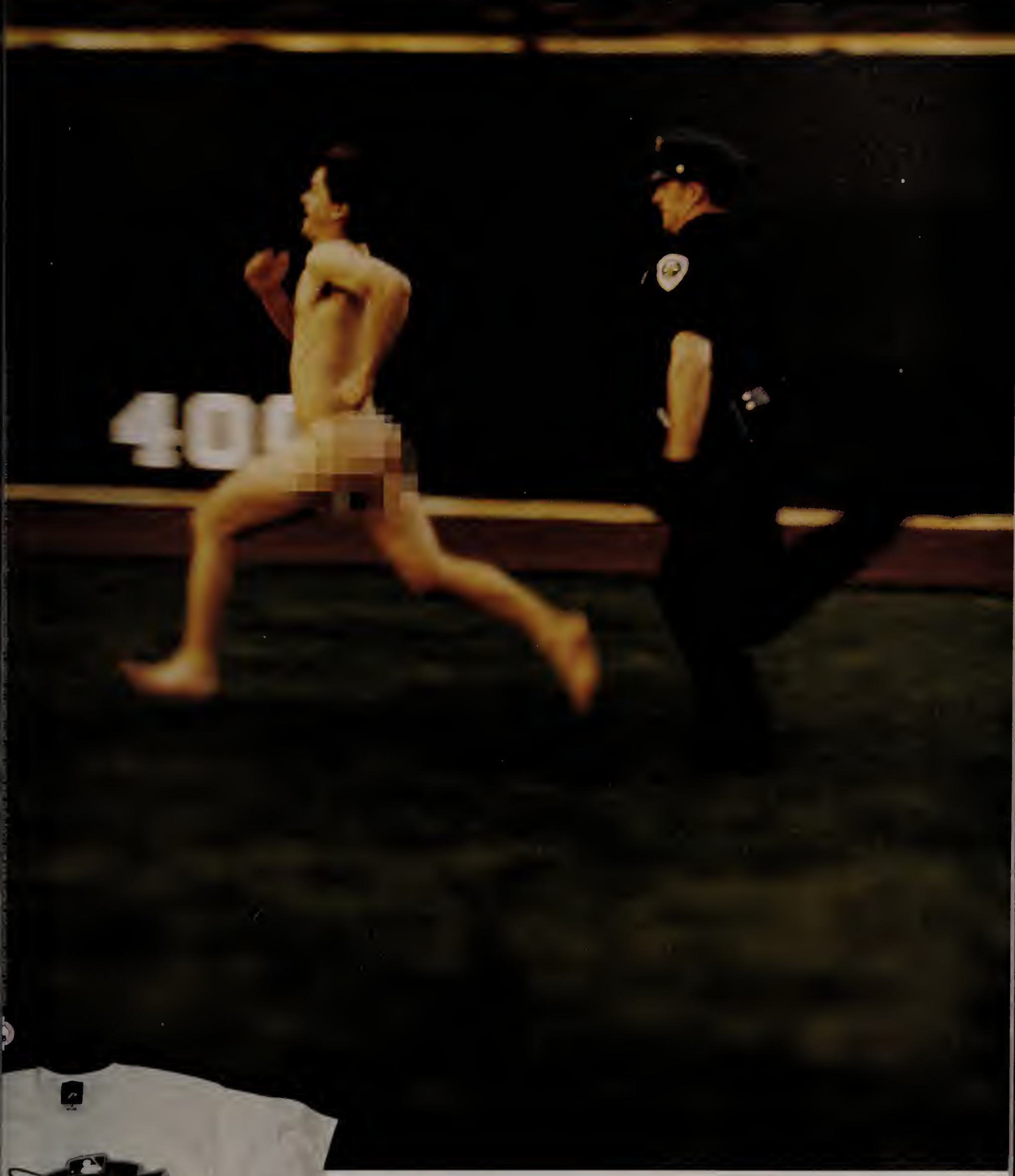




ACTIVE
CAL RIPKEN JR.

"He's so steady. If you saw him play once or twice, he might not amaze you, but if you see him day after day you appreciate all the little things he does to help his team win." *–Texas first baseman Rafael Palmeiro*

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (ROBINSON); MLB PHOTOS: KEE (BOGGS), PILLING (TOP–RIPKEN); SMITH (BOTTOM–RIPKEN)



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OF

ALL-TIME
STAN MUSIAL

24 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



One of the best clutch hitters ever, "Stan the Man's" affable personality endeared him to fans while he terrorized NL pitchers for 22 seasons and led St. Louis to three World Series titles.

Years Played: 1941-1963
Hall of Fame: 1969
ASG Stats: 20 for 63 (.317), 6 HR (MLB record), 10 RBI

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
3,026	10,972	3,630	475	1,951	.331

Best Year: 1948 (.376 BA, 39 HR, 139 RBI)
Magic Number: .300 — topped that batting mark 17 times
Best Known For: His corkscrew batting stance
Honors: 7 NL batting titles; NL MVP 1943, '46, '48
Top Rank: #2: Total bases (6,134); #2: Extra-base hits (1,377); #4: Hits (3,630); #4: RBI (1,951)

ACTIVE
RICKEY HENDERSON

10 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS

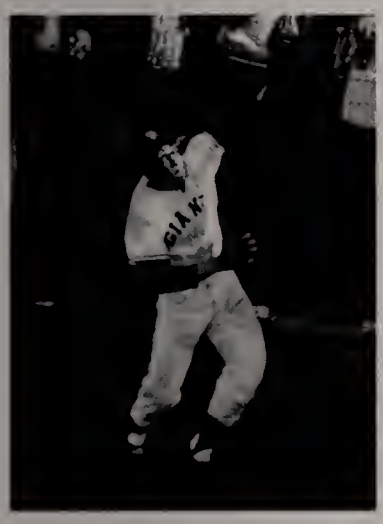


"He's the best leadoff hitter of all time, no question. There has never been a leadoff hitter who matched his combination of on-base percentage, base stealing ability and power."

–Former big leaguer and announcer Tony Kubek

ALL-TIME
WILLIE MAYS

24 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



Blessed with grace and athletic ability, the "Say Hey Kid" dominated ballgames with his bat, legs and glove. He made tough plays look easy and was truly one of baseball's first five-tool players.

Years Played: 1951-1973
Hall of Fame: 1979
ASG Stats: 23 for 75 (.307), 3 HR, 9 RBI

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
2,992	10,881	3,283	660	1,903	.302

Best Year: 1954 (.345 BA, 41 HR, 110 RBI)
Magic Number: 12 — Gold Gloves, tied for tops among outfielders
Best Known For: *The* over-the-shoulder catch on a Vic Wertz fly ball, Game 1 of the 1954 World Series
Honors: NL Rookie of the Year 1951; NL MVP 1954, '65
Top Rank: #2: Multiple HR games (63); #3: Home runs (660) #3: Total bases (6,066); #5: Runs (2,062)

ACTIVE
KEN GRIFFEY JR.

9 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"He plays the game the way it should be played — he goes out and has fun. You can see it. You can feel it in the stands watching him, every time he walks up to the plate."

–Hall of Famer Frank Robinson

ALL-TIME
HANK AARON

25 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"Hammerin' Hank" let his bat do the talking — 755 times, thanks in part to those massive wrists and forearms. This multidimensional talent boasted outstanding speed and one of the best throwing arms of his time.

Years Played: 1954-1976
Hall of Fame: 1982
ASG Stats: 13 for 67 (.194), 2 HR, 8 RBI

Career:

G	AB	H	HR	RBI	AVG
3,298	12,364	3,771	755	2,297	.305

Best Year: 1959 (.355, 39 HR, 123 RBI)
Magic Number: 6,856 — all-time record-holder in total bases
Best Known For: One more time...Seven hundred and fifty-five
Honors: NL MVP 1957
Top Rank: #1: Total bases (6,856); #1: Extra-base hits (1,477); #1: RBI (2,297); #3: Games (3,298)

ACTIVE
TONY GWYNN

13 ALL-STAR GAME SELECTIONS



"Tony is a hell of a hitter and a real student of hitting. I've said many times that of all the players in the game today, he's the one with the best chance to hit .400."

–Hall of Famer Ted Williams

QUOTES ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: CLEMENS (WASHINGTON POST); MADDUX (ATLANTA BRAVES); RODRIGUEZ (DAILY OKLAHOMAN); MCGWIRE (ST. LOUIS CARDINALS); ALOMAR (CLEVELAND INDIANS); BOGGS; HENDERSON (THE SPORTING NEWS); RIPKEN; GRIFFEY (BALTIMORE SUN); GWYNN (SAN DIEGO PADRES)



HAMMER

HANK AARON LOOKS BACK ON HIS HALL OF FAME CAREER IN A CONVERSATION WITH MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL.

HOME RUNS. THESE ARE WHAT PEOPLE THINK OF WHEN THEY HEAR THE NAME HANK AARON. THE HALL OF FAME right fielder is synonymous with the longball. After all, he belted a Major League-record 755 during a brilliant 23-year career. ✣ But to infer that such a feat sums up his stalwart career is to remain ignorant to the wide scope of his achievement on the field. Aaron drove in more runs and compiled more total bases than any player in Major League history. At various times during his career, he led his league in runs, hits, doubles, home runs, RBI and slugging percentage. He stole bases, threw out runners and never struck out more than 100 times in one season. He won batting titles, Gold Gloves and MVPs. He was a leader, a mentor, an inspiration. ✣ Hank Aaron was a complete player. ✣ Twenty-three years after hanging up his cleats, he still is. ✣ Aaron's passion for baseball continues today in his role as senior vice president and assistant to the president of the Atlanta Braves. Beyond the game, he is deeply committed to his family and the youth of America. In 1995, he and his wife, Billye, created the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation to help children in need realize their talents in sports, the arts and other activities. ✣ Aaron does not draw attention to himself; however, one cannot help but be drawn to Aaron. This past April, Major League Baseball announced the creation of the Hank Aaron Award, which will go, in 1999, to the player in each league who has the highest combined number of hits, home runs and RBI. (Beginning in 2000, the requirements will be more subjective, as winners

BY KIERAN O'DWYER ✣ PHOTOGRAPH BY ERNEST WASHINGTON



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will be chosen by a panel that has yet to be selected.)

When Aaron was elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1982, he noted how Jackie Robinson and Roy Campanella "proved to the world that a man's ability is limited only by his lack of opportunity." Aaron proved long ago that his ability is limitless, and baseball and its fans are grateful for the opportunity he's given us.

Major League Baseball: How does 755 look to you in 1999?
Henry Aaron: I appreciated it then and now. It's a number to be reckoned with, but I've said many times that records are made to be broken and this, too, will probably be broken at some point.
MLB: Do you think that, 25 years later, people have a greater appreciation for your accomplishment?
Aaron: I think you see more appreciation than a few years ago. Some people probably feel guilty that all of those things that come with a record like this didn't come my way. But I think that, overall, people appreciate it more.
MLB: What aspects of your game were you particularly proud of that did not get much attention during your career?
Aaron: I'm proud of my base-stealing percentage and of fielding my position well. I never struck out 100 times in a season. I'm very proud of that.
MLB: Breaking Stan Musial's Major League record for total bases in 1972 must have meant a great deal to you.
Aaron: Anytime you break a record, like Musial's, you feel honored. To be talked about in the same breath as Stan Musial makes me feel great. I admired him because he looked at me simply for my talent and abilities.
MLB: In addition to the home run and total bases records, you hold the Majors' career mark for runs batted in. Did you see yourself as a complete player?
Aaron: All those records mean an awful lot to me, especially when people start thinking about what type of ballplayer I was. I'd like to be considered as a complete ballplayer rather than as someone who was just one-dimensional.
MLB: Between Eddie Mathews and you, the Braves owned baseball's best one-two power punch from the mid-1950s to mid-'60s. In what ways did he help make you a better ballplayer?
Aaron: It's kind of like playing with somebody like Michael Jordan. He gears you up to play better. Mathews made me feel like, 'Hey, if he can do some of the things that he does, I ought to be able to do them too, if I work hard and concentrate.' Eddie meant an awful lot to me. He was a great ballplayer and a tremendous guy.
MLB: The Braves had some great teams in the late 1950s. Was '57 the highlight?
Aaron: 1957 was one of the great highlights. The year before, the Dodgers beat us (for the pennant) by one game and we didn't want that to happen again. I hit a home run in extra innings against the Cardinals to clinch the pennant. We beat the Yankees in the World Series in seven games and I was voted the league's most valuable player. That was a great year individually and collectively for the team.
MLB: You won two batting titles early in your career, including a Major League-best .355 in 1959. Did you ever think you had a better shot at reaching .400 than 714?
Aaron: I thought, when I first started out, I had an excellent chance of hitting .400. The early part of my career I hit the ball to all areas of the park. Then, of course, I started waiting for certain pitches and pulling the ball more. That took away a lot of the things I was doing early on and, rather than being a .360 hitter, it turned me into a .315 hitter.
MLB: What specific adjustments, if any, did you make when facing some the game's top hurlers like Bob Gibson, Sandy Koufax and Juan Marichal?



Aaron's teammates mob home plate (left), as they await the arrival of baseball's new all-time Home Run King, after he belted No. 715 on April 8, 1974.

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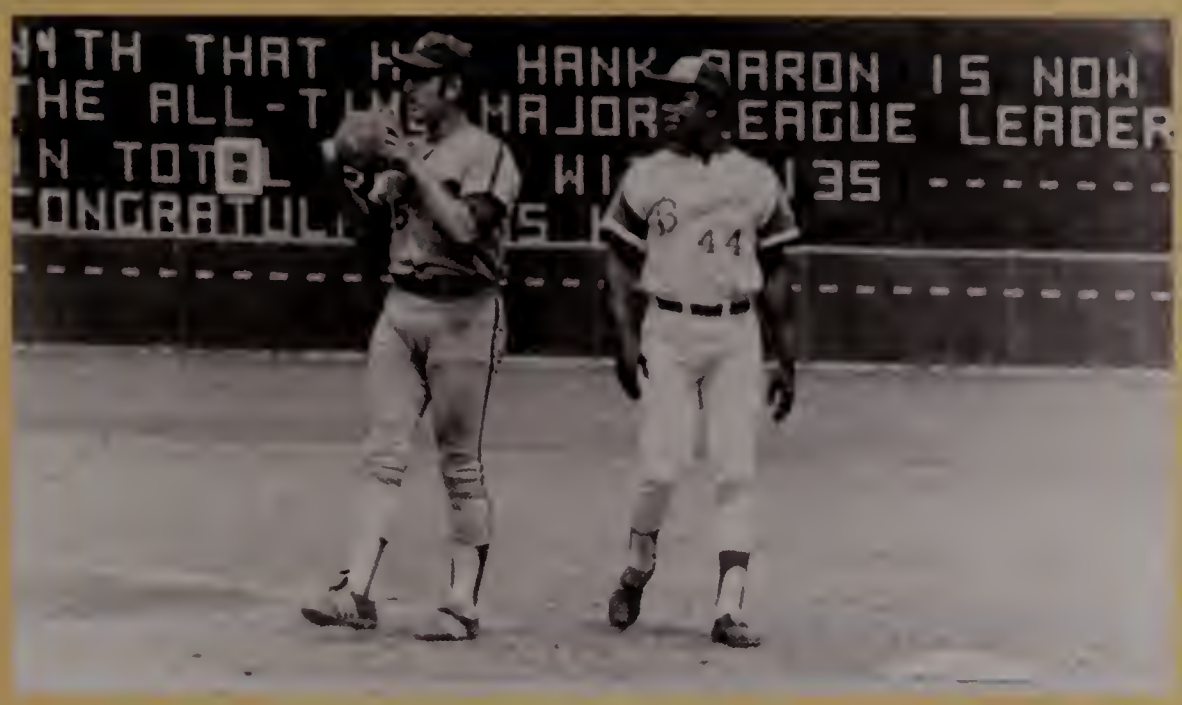
FUTURE'S FINEST



HANK AARON AWARD CONTENDERS

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Aaron heads back to the bag after becoming the Majors' career-leader in total bases in 1972.

Aaron: My philosophy didn't change one bit. I enjoyed the guessing game, enjoyed competing against the pitcher and catcher. When I faced guys like Gibson, Marichal, Koufax and (Don) Drysdale, I could have been looking for a fastball and got a fastball but not in the right place. These guys didn't get to the Hall of Fame by being foolish. They knew how to pitch.

MLB: Speaking of Hall of Famers, describe the impact that Jackie Robinson had on your career.

Aaron: Well, Jackie had a tremendous impact on most every black athlete in this country. You know, he was the one who paved the way for all of us. When he broke into the Major Leagues, he gave all of us a little hope that we could play, that we could be given a chance to be in the Major Leagues. Just looking at him, just having him out there on the field, helped elevate my game.

As Jackie declined, I felt the torch had been passed on to guys like Willie (Mays), Ernie (Banks) and me to continue what he stood for.

MLB: Players, managers and coaches voted for All-Stars between 1958 and '69. In 1959, you became the first unanimously elected player in All-Star history. Did you consider this recognition as a sign that skill mattered more than skin color?

Aaron: It meant an awful lot to me because I was being recognized for how I played the game. And playing in a small-market town made it that much better.

MLB: Thirteen years later, you belted a home run in front of the home fans at the 1972 All-Star Game in Atlanta and received a tremendous ovation.

Aaron: That was a great feeling. You always want to do well in front of the home crowd. And for me to hit a home run in the All-Star Game, especially in Atlanta, was quite a thrill.

MLB: The overwhelming positive national reaction that Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa received last year during their race to break Roger Maris' single-season home run record was quite different from your reception 25 years ago.

Aaron: I wish I could have enjoyed it as much (in 1974) as they did last year. I thought that McGwire and Sosa handled themselves very well. It couldn't have happened at a better time. It was good for baseball, and put baseball back on the front page.

MLB: What did you and your family do to cope with the racism and piles of hate mail as you approached Ruth's record?

Aaron: There wasn't anything that we could do, really. Just try to stay away from it and treat everybody the same. My mother always said, 'You have no control over it, don't worry about it.' We got so many pieces of mail and so much of it was racially motivated. But, I also received an awful lot of letters of encouragement.

MLB: Describe the relief you felt when you broke Ruth's record.

Aaron: I was just happy that it was over, that I was able to get on with my career and life.

MLB: Do you see any player ever breaking your home run record?

Aaron: I think, in spite of what McGwire has done, the guy I've always thought has a chance to do it is Ken Griffey. Maybe if McGwire keeps hitting 70 in a season, but he's 35 years old. Look at what Griffey has done, and he's only 29. In some ways, he's a lot like I was, playing in a small city. Last year, not many people knew he hit 56 homers.

MLB: He's definitely on the right track.

Aaron: He'd have to have some great years and stay focused and healthy. I played a long time, and 19 or 20 of those years were very productive. If Griffey keeps doing what he's doing, he can break it.

MLB: How do you wish to be remembered?

Aaron: As a complete ballplayer, as more than someone who hit home runs. The only thing I wanted to do in baseball was be the very best that I could possibly be. People can take a look at stats to evaluate that. The home runs are there, the runs batted in, all that I did, so I'm not too concerned about that.

I want to be remembered as someone who cared about other people, as one who established a foundation to help children. I think that's how I want to be remembered most. ◆

Kieran O'Dwyer is editor for Major League Baseball Properties.

FOR THE RECORD

[illegible] years after his retirement in 1976, Aaron's career numbers still place him among the Top-3 in Major League history in games played (3rd with 3,298), as well as in seven offensive categories.

CATEGORY	STATISTIC	RANK
At-bats	12,364	2nd
Runs	2,174	T-2nd
Hits	3,771	3rd
Home runs	755	1st
Total bases	6,856	1st
Runs batted in	2,297	1st
Extra base hits	1,477	1st

Flashin' Leather

Many of the Major Leagues brightest young players display dazzlin



IT WAS OPENING DAY, 1996, IN New York, and the Mets were trying to claw back from an earlier six-run deficit. But with two outs and a man on first in the seventh inning, it appeared certain the St. Louis Cardinals would add to their 6-3 lead when Ray Lankford ripped a double over third base. Mets left fielder Bernard Gilkey hustled to the ball, but fired errantly to shortstop Rey Ordonez — playing in his first Major League game — who had raced up the line for the cutoff. Royce Clayton, a speedy shortstop subbing for the injured Ozzie Smith, was running on contact and seemed sure to score.

Ordonez, however, refused to give up on the play. In one miraculous blur of instinct and athletic grace, he went into a skid on the wet turf, stabbed the tailing throw, wheeled on his knees and fired a strike to the plate, where catcher Todd Hundley tagged out a stunned Clayton.

The play (often cited by witnesses as one of the greatest they'd ever seen) not only saved a run, but also effectively won the game. The energized Mets sustained their comeback for a 7-6 win, the final out recorded when Ordonez made a diving stop up the middle to rob Willie McGee of a hit.

"It's safe to say," said a dazzled Smith of Ordonez, "he's the second coming of me."

Since then, some would assert, there have been several more comings of The Wizard. The Yankees' Derek Jeter and Seattle's Alex Rodriguez opened their first full seasons that same week, and Boston's Nomar Garciaparra and the Cards' Edgar Renteria (then a Marlin) would debut later that year. In fact, the 1996 campaign seemed to usher in an era of youthful defensive genius, and the game's ranks of fielding phenoms have continued to swell at all positions. The depth and breadth of the trend, however, is focused at shortstop.

"In chances for skillful plays and the employment of judgment, the short-stop position is second to no other position on the in-field," wrote former player and manager John Montgomery Ward in *Base-Ball: How to Become a Player*. That point remains unchallenged since that book was published 111 years ago.

What has changed, and only recently, is that few teams are content with their shortstops fitting the posi-

By Bruce Herman

lovework that frustrates hitters, thrills fans and often turns games.

tion's traditional "good-field/no-hit" profile. Rodriguez, only 23, already has won a batting title and hit as many as 42 home runs. Garciaparra was just the fifth player at any position to clout 30 homers in each of his first two full seasons. And Jeter was a .308 career hitter coming into 1999.

But that trio is every bit as impressive, if less heralded, with the leather as with the lumber.

"Defense wins," says Jeter. "When you play shortstop, it has to be your number one priority."

A sensible alignment of priorities is one of many reasons team owner George Steinbrenner once said that, if reincarnation were possible, he'd want to come back as Derek Jeter.

A starter at the infield's axis position since he was 21, Jeter's maturity set him apart immediately.

"The thing that stuck out about him to me was his poise," remembers Wade Boggs, who, as the Yankees third baseman in 1996 and [illegible], watched Jeter break in. "He was playing like a 10-year veteran. He'd make an error on one play, then make a great play on the next."

Pitcher David Cone was the beneficiary of the first great one Jeter ever made in pinstripes — a breathtaking catch of an apparent bloop single behind him in Cleveland on Opening Day of the shortstop's rookie year.

"He's better," says 14-year veteran Cone flatly, "at the over-the-shoulder catch on pop-ups than anyone I've ever seen."

Jeter, however, would rather people [illegible] about the mundane than the marvelous, asserting "I don't focus on the spectacular play, the routine one is more important."

Again, his priorities serve him well.

Although he once made 56 errors in a Minor League season, he trimmed them from 22 as a rookie to 18 to a niggling nine last year. It is likely that only the presence of Cleveland's Omar Vizquel, the American League's paradigm at the position, separated Jeter from the Gold Glove Award in 1998.

Not that there weren't other candidates — his close friend, Rodriguez, among them.

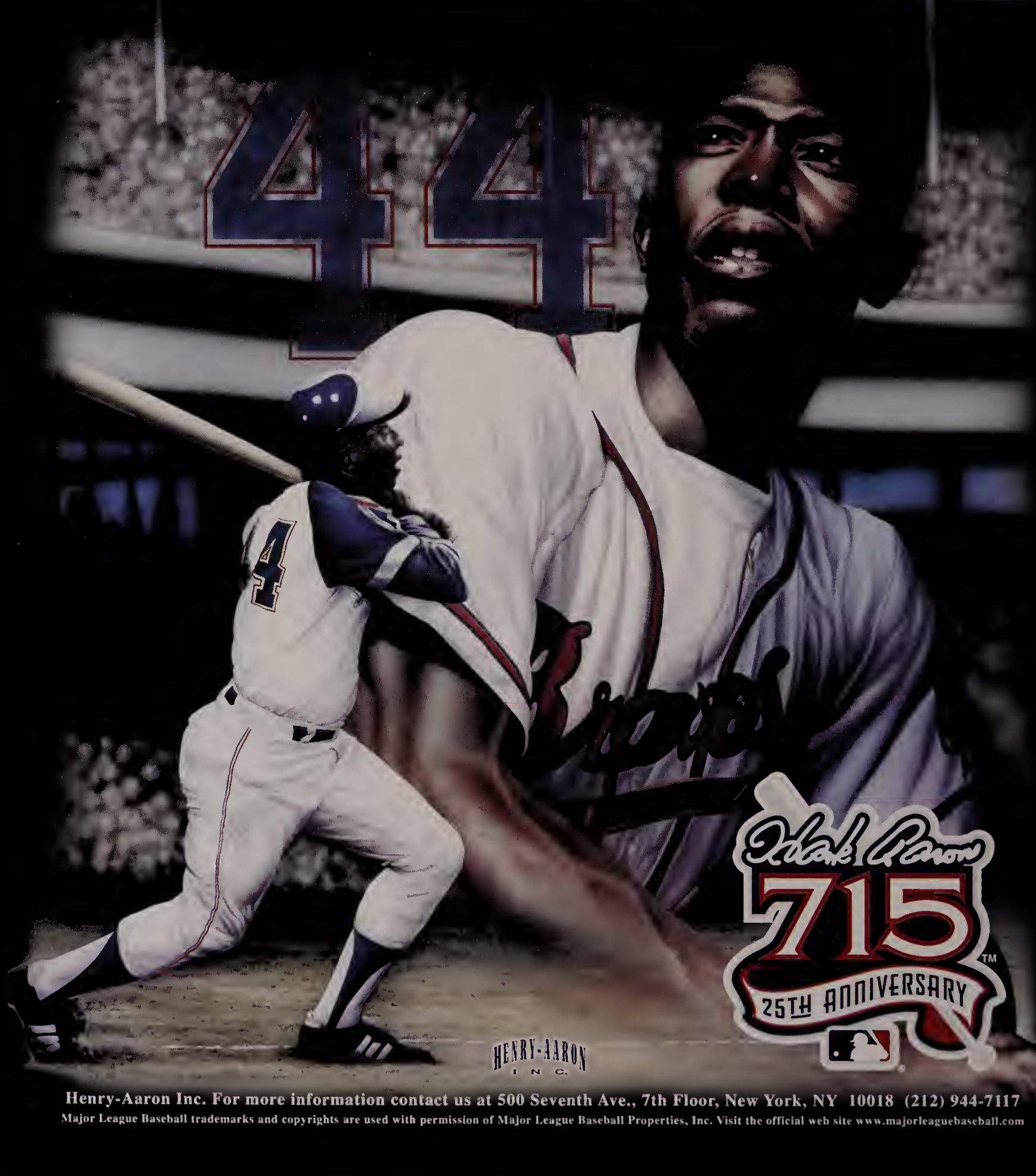
"A-Rod and I talk about defense all the time," says Jeter. "We both realize it's more important than offense."

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Rey Ordonez (left) and Alex Rodriguez keep the highlight reels going by making seemingly impossible plays look routine.

Rodriguez confirms. "That's what a shortstop's game should be all about," he says. "We agree we'd rather go hitless and make some good plays to help the team and win, than go 4 for 4 and lose. Nothing justifies an error."

A bigger man than the good-sized Jeter, Rodriguez's defensive style is more physical. Though not as fluid, he can still make the gee-whiz play. Scouts buzz about his ability to go over the middle, to complete the double play and, especially, to unleash a powerful, accurate throw from anywhere on the diamond.

Garciaparra, in contrast, is smaller and a hybrid of styles. He can make the slide-and-throw play but, unlike Ordonez, only on his right knee. His arm rivals Rodriguez's, but he plays more on the move, rarely following the classic prescription of setting his feet before making a throw.

Mike Benjamin, Garciaparra's 1998 DP partner now with the Pirates, marvels at what he saw in Boston. "Sometimes when there was a ball in the hole," he recalls, "well, I don't know to this day how he managed to do his feet. They'd go all wacky and he'd still throw the heck out of the ball."

Although the offensively potent Jeter-Rodriguez-Garciaparra triumvirate commands most of the notoriety, the baseball landscape is teeming with slick, young shortstops. Among them:

Renteria, 23. "Every night, he'd do something to make you say 'Wow,'" says Devil Rays pitcher Tony Saunders, his teammate in 1997.

Alex Gonzalez, Toronto, 26. Gonzalez led the AL in fielding in '97. "He's not a real fancy guy," says former teammate Ed Sprague, "but he's one of the better ones."

Neifi Perez, Colorado, 24. "He has a strong arm, and likes to use it," laughs outfielder Quinton McCracken, a former teammate. "He'll make a play interesting, waiting just a second before he throws, making the runner run, then throwing him out."

Deivi Cruz, Detroit, 24. Says Tigers' first baseman Tony Clark, "The first time he gunned the ball over to me, my mitt bent back and hit me in the mouth."

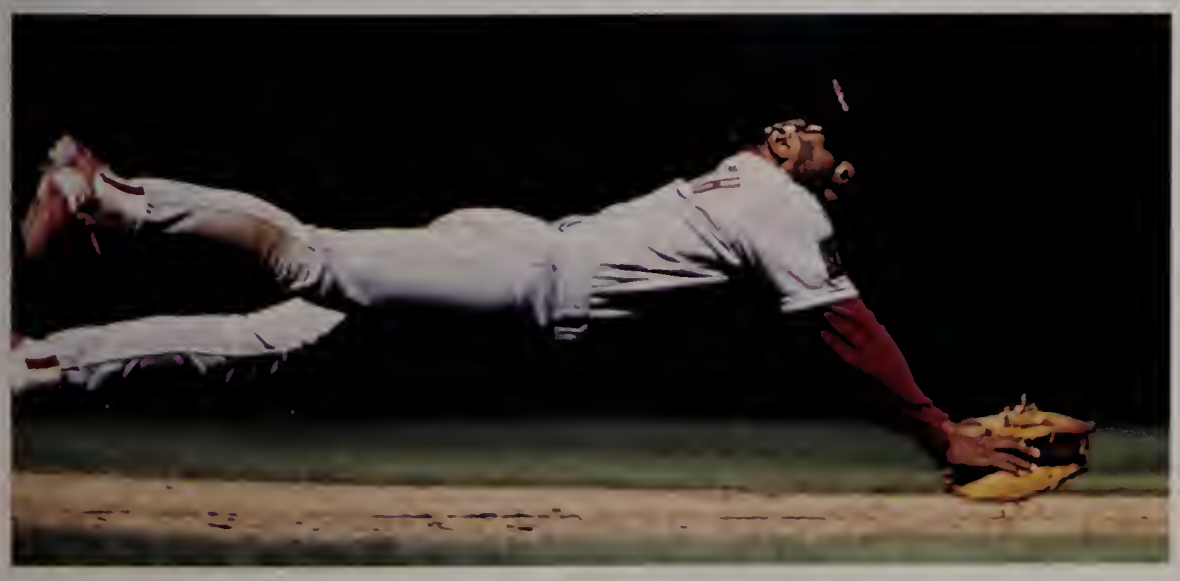
None, however, can match the sheer crowd-wowing creativity of Ordonez, the Cuban defector who has staged a revolution of his own in the way the position is played.

Eschewing convention, he fields even routine balls backhanded with his glove at a 45-degree angle to the ground, instead of in the palms-up manner taught to every Little Leaguer. Like most anyone who's seen him operate, 13-time Gold Glove shortstop Ozzie Smith is astonished by Ordonez's fusion of athleticism, timing and improvisational skills.

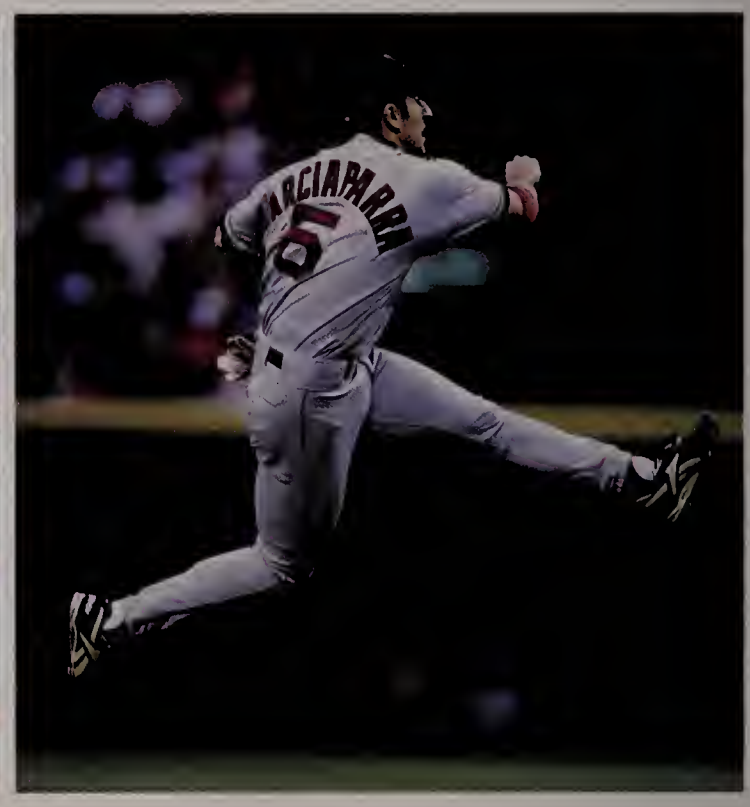
"I've seen Jeter run away from first base to catch the ball, jump in the air and throw back across the diamond," says Smith. "I've seen Rodriguez, a big man, charge the ball and throw a guy out off-balance. I've seen Nomar dive to his right and gun a guy out, and Renteria dive to his left and throw someone out from his knees.

"But Rey has the best baseball instincts. He has a sense for where the ball is going to be hit, and that's not

Ozzie Smith, the original acrobat at shortstop, set a sky-high standard for defensive wizardry.







With Derek Jeter (left) and Nomar Garciaparra firing away, the shortstop position is in excellent hands for the next decade.

something you teach. And he has a knack for pulling off the play with the most flair. That slide on one knee and pop-up going away from the ball...that's pretty close to my style."

To Ordonez's credit, his style has not cost him fielding percentage points. After committing 18 errors before the All-Star break as a rookie, he made only 18 more in the next year and a half, then 17 in all of 1998.

Though he won his second Gold Glove at 25, Ordonez was a "veteran" on the 1998 National League corps.

The youngest, at 21 (and the first Major Leaguer born during the Carter Administration), was Atlanta's phenomenal center fielder Andruw Jones.

"He made more great catches than I've seen in 10 years," said manager Bobby Cox — who regularly compares Jones to Willie Mays — last summer. "He's the best in baseball."

Flaunting Ordonez-like prescience for getting quick breaks on the ball, Jones is a smothering outfielder with astonishing range laterally, in front of him and -- most rare among center fielders — on balls hit directly over his head. To the mix, the youngster adds one of the most extra base-deterring arms in the game.

Another greenhorn Gold Glover was Philadelphia's Scott Rolen who, at 23, was the youngest third baseman ever to win one, save the incomparable Brooks Robinson. Though he never played the position regularly until he was a high school senior — only six years ago — he has flash-point reactions, a quick first step and a bazooka for an arm. Not only that, he cheats.

"Some third basemen use their whole bodies and arms," he explains. "I did that for awhile. Now I position myself in a place where I can use my hands. It's important to be in a balanced, base position to be able to react to the ball...with not a lot of movement, everything efficient, increasing reaction time.

"Positioning is almost like cheating. I'm already down, I can see the baseball and I can use my hands. Even if you are not blessed with great reactions, you can cheat and still be a good third baseman."

Rolen has more than a little in com-

Cannon Kids



Keep an eye on these five young outfielders with powerful arms:

1. Andruw Jones, Atlanta. Last July, he preserved a 3-2 victory by tossing out a runner at home with a searing throw that traveled an estimated 300 feet.

2. Jose Guillen, Pittsburgh. "He absolutely shuts a running game down," says Jeff Banister, who managed him in the Minors. "When we'd take infield, the entire stadium would stop to watch him throw."

3. Vladimir Guerrero, Montreal. "Some guys," says Colorado Rockies coach Rich Donnelly, "can't hit the ball as hard as he throws."

4. Richard Hidalgo, Houston. He once tossed out four runners in one game for Jackson of the Texas League in 1996.

5. Bobby Abreu, Philadelphia. His 17 outfield assists last year ranked behind only Jones and Mark Kotsay (20 each) in the NL.



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You can go 1 for 4, *but get an* ***RBI double*** *and have* ***a great day.*** *That's not true on* ***defense.*** *You have to* ***make all the plays.***

—PHILADELPHIA THIRD BASEMAN SCOTT ROLEN

mon with Robinson, widely considered the best who ever played the position. Both were blessed with superior reflexes and both spent a lot of time playing basketball. Rolen says hoops helped sharpen his lateral movement, and thus improve upon the toughest play for him to make: the backhand.

"Now that I've improved my backhand, I actually have even more range to my left. I wanted to field everything in front of me, so I'd lean to my right trying to compensate and maybe give up a hit to the other side of me."

One young Gold Glove competitor out of Rolen's way for 1999 is the Mets' Edgardo Alfonzo, 25. A runner-up to Ken Caminiti for the 1997 award at third base, he has switched to second, where he and Ordonez constitute perhaps the most defensively talented, young keystone combo in the Majors.

Alfonzo's biggest adjustment has been learning to finesse the double play which, "next to the triple play," author/baseball fan Alistair Cooke once wrote, "is the most exciting and graceful thing in sports."

That would make 25-year-old Tampa Bay second baseman Miguel Cairo one of the more exciting and graceful players. Despite the instabilities of pairing with several shortstops in 1998, he turned 110 double plays (third-most in the AL) as a rookie.

"The first time I saw him," recalls teammate Boggs, "we played Florida State University in an exhibition game and he made three great plays, two to his right and one to his left."

Cairo, a former shortstop who lacked premium arm strength for that position, typically takes upwards of 100 ground balls a day in practice in his quest for polish and consistency.

A similar work ethic has made Arizona's Travis Lee the marquee first baseman in the new wave of glovemasters. In a league without the Giants' J. T. Snow and the Cubs' Mark Grace, Lee, 24, might have been a Gold Glover as a rookie last season.

Jim Dietz, who coached both Lee and Grace at San Diego State University, says Lee, despite his 6-3, 210-pound size, is an extraordinary athlete.

"He throws a football right-handed, and a baseball left-handed," notes Dietz. "He could be a gifted outfielder. For awhile I was forced to play him in center field. He can run, he made all the plays and has a very strong arm."

Next to shortstop, center field has the highest concentration of future Gold Glove candidates. It is a position that demands not only the pure speed to track down balls over sprawling distances, but endless practice repetitions to learn judgment and the most efficient routes to the ball.

Mike Cameron, traded from the White Sox to the Reds last winter, is a 26-year-old who took several years to translate his athleticism into results, but now is among the best.

"He just loves the game...one of those guys who'll pick your brain to learn more and more each day," says Dave Martinez, who flanked the rookie Cameron as Chicago's right fielder in 1997. "He's got all the skills and a great notion of how to play people."

In fact, if it wasn't for Cameron, the home run record would stand at 71. On June 8 last season, he snatched a Mark McGwire shot as it headed over the fence.

In Philadelphia, fans have become captivated with the all-around skills of right fielder Bobby Abreu, whose defensive fundamentals are remarkable for a 25-year-old. Says Rolen of his teammate, "Bobby reads the ball well, has good catch-up speed on balls, and he plays the game right."

Deivi Cruz (top) and Neifi Perez are just two of a growing number of shortstops from the Dominican Republic.





Abreu's polish is the product of his baseball-intensive upbringing in Venezuela. He was originally signed by Houston at 16 as a second baseman, and was schooled at the team's Venezuelan academy, where the club took one look at his ability to throw and made him an outfielder. Amazingly, he has gunned down runners at a rate of about one every week-and-a-half as a professional.

"It's not a (Raul) Mondesi-type arm," says Rolen, "but he's unbelievably accurate. He puts the ball right on the catcher, giving him the chance to block the plate. And he doesn't miss the cutoff man."

Other up-and-coming center fielders include Kansas City's Carlos Beltran, Oakland's Ryan Christenson, Devil Rays speedster Randy Winn, and a pair of Marlins, Mark Kotsay and Todd Dunwoody.

The list of defensive prodigies, across all positions, is long and impressive. And in an age of home run mania, it's reassuring to know that a new generation of players are prioritizing and perfecting the more subtle skills of the game.

"I love playing defense," says Rolen. "It's unselfish. There's nothing you can do defensively that's selfish. You hit a home run, it's almost a selfish act. You win an MVP award, it's a personal award. But every error you make, you're directly letting down eight other players on the field. You can go 1 for 4, but get an RBI double and have a great day. That's not true on defense. You have to make all the plays."

Baseball, as it enters the new millennium, is in good hands. ◆

Bruce Herman is a sportswriter and consultant based in St. Petersburg, Fla.

BASE-BALL INK

Some ballplayers wear their hearts on their skin. We've exposed nine diehards who love the game so much that they had baseball tattooed on their souls.

BY MIKE McCORMICK

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRUCE SERETA

All pictures depicted are artistic renderings of the players' actual tattoos.



The Player Anonymous

The Ink Prowling Panther (on his arm)

The Story He wouldn't tell us the reason behind the ink because he doesn't want his mother to find out that he has a tattoo.

Our one and only hint...he's a pitcher on the West Coast.



The Player Vic Darensbourg

The Ink Ball Cool (on his shoulder)

The Story "I loved to wear my cap backwards as a kid."

The Marlins' pitcher also boasts tattoos of his daughter's name, Paige, and a cross.



The Player Jason Christiansen

The Ink Tasmanian Hurler (on his chest)

The Story "Taz does what he pleases and is very intimidating. He reminds me of myself."

A spinning madman on the mound, the Pirates' hurler finished the past two seasons with intimidating ERAs of 2.51 and 2.94.





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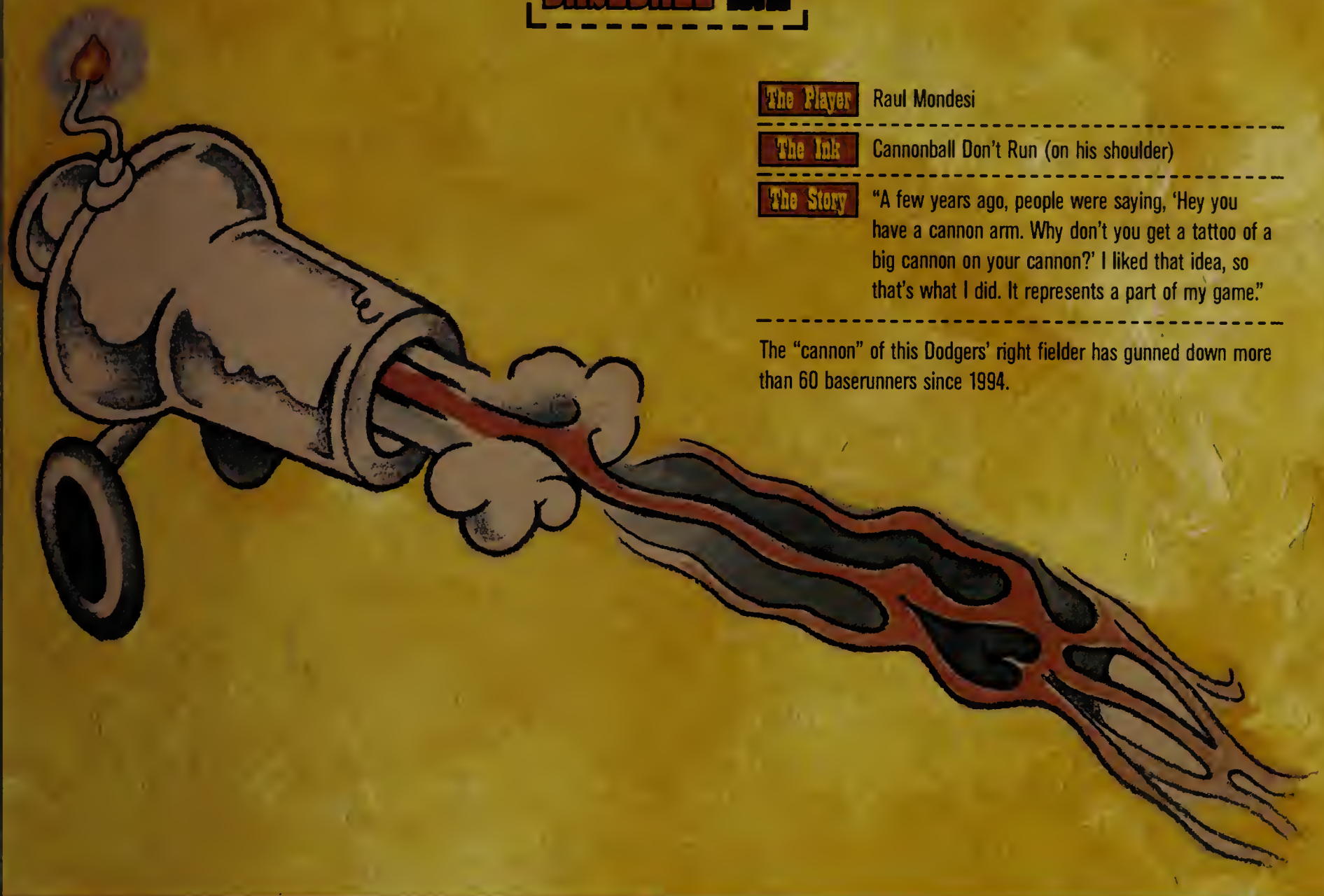
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The Player Raul Mondesi

The Ink Cannonball Don't Run (on his shoulder)

The Story "A few years ago, people were saying, 'Hey you have a cannon arm. Why don't you get a tattoo of a big cannon on your cannon?' I liked that idea, so that's what I did. It represents a part of my game."

The "cannon" of this Dodgers' right fielder has gunned down more than 60 baserunners since 1994.



The Player Jason Kendall

The Ink Behind the Mask (on his ankle)

The Story "I'm a catcher..." *[Why'd ya think?]* "...It's pretty cool because not many people have a catcher's mask as a tattoo."

Blocking balls in the dirt runs in the family. His father, Fred Kendall, was a big league backstop for the Padres, Indians and Red Sox from 1969 to '80.



The Player Jim Leyritz

The Ink Heading Home (on his shoulder)

The Story The Padres' guardian of home plate is always close to his own home – his wife, Karri, and their children, Austin and Dakota.

What happens if Leyritz gets traded to the Indians, where Omar Vizquel already has a lock on uniform No. 13? Ouch!

BASEBALL INK



The Player Darren Bragg

The Ink Frozen Rope (on his arm)

The Story "Every batter wants to hit one."

A line drive is known as a rope. A *screaming* line drive...now that's what we call frozen.

ROCK

The Player Rondell White

The Ink Mind Over Matter (on his arm)

The Story "It's been my nickname since I was in eighth grade. I was wrestling this big guy named Dan Curry and I slammed him. He called me 'Rock' because I was so small and tough. The name stuck."

Did you think the tattoo was about the better-known "Rock," former Expo Tim Raines?



The Player Brian Looney

The Ink Bats Bunny (on his thigh)

The Story "I got the idea for it from a Looney Tunes baseball card. Plus...it's my name."

A pitcher at Triple-A Toledo in the Tigers farm system, Looney almost got a tattoo of the Tasmanian Devil holding a hockey stick, but he quit hockey in favor of baseball. *That's all, folks.*

Mike McCormick is associate editor for Major League Baseball Properties.

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The day when that scene materializes without a soccer ball at the center of attention may not be far away. Chances are good that Major League Baseball's best players will someday compete for another prize in addition to the World Series trophy — the title of "true" World Champion.

Major League Baseball is in the early stages of organizing a World Cup event. Players like Mark McGwire, Sammy Sosa, Chan Ho Park and Larry Walker could be afforded the opportunity to play for their native countries. Maybe Kevin Brown could add a red, white and blue ensemble alongside his blue Dodger wardrobe. Those north of the border would agree that Canada's red and white would look just as good as Oakland's yellow and green on Matt Stairs.

Save for the All-Star Game, this could prove to be the greatest collection of talent ever assembled on one diamond. The possibilities are limitless. Pedro Martinez, starting for the Dominican Republic, could face a U.S. lineup featuring Chipper Jones, Ken Griffey Jr. and Mo Vaughn. Venezuela's Ugueth Urbina could enter the ninth with Puerto Rico's Bernie Williams, Juan Gonzalez, and Ivan Rodriguez between him and the save. Such a tournament no doubt would captivate fans throughout the world.

"It's not a question of if, but when," says Tim Brosnan, senior vice president of domestic and international properties. "A World Cup will put baseball on a worldwide platform. The

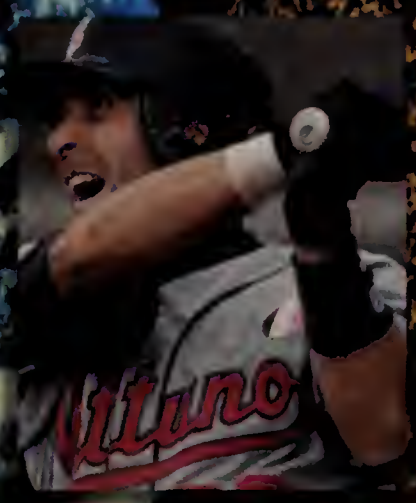
BY JUAN C. RODRIGUEZ










Vituno









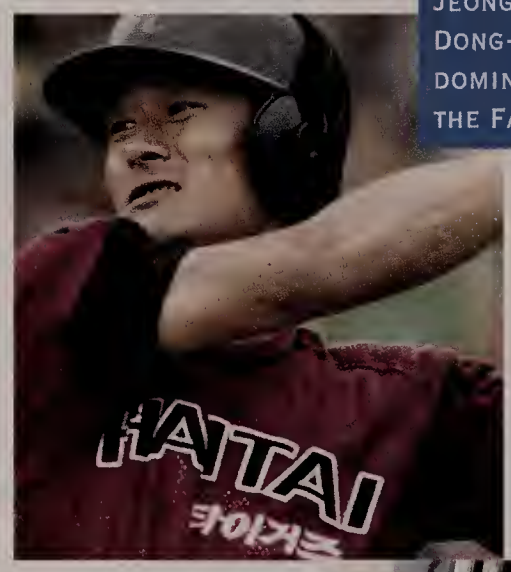
World Series is viewed in 210 countries. In a lot of those countries, it is seen as the premier form of the game, but it's a U.S. or Canadian-based team playing for their league championship."

A World Cup event is a logical step in the globalization efforts of Major League Baseball. Baseball isn't just the American pastime. This season, foreign-born players, most of who are from Spanish-speaking nations, comprised 21.2 percent of players on Opening Day rosters. The Dominican Republic was represented by 66 players, with Puerto Rico and Venezuela second and third with 31 and 25, respectively. Factor in the Minor Leagues, and foreign-born individuals comprise more than 35 percent of all players. In addition to the U.S. and Canada, 10 countries (Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Australia, Italy, Venezuela, Mexico, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic) have professional baseball leagues.

The International Baseball Association estimates worldwide participation in organized baseball exceeds 38 million. As recently as 1993, only 53 national baseball federations existed. That number has soared to 107.

"Look at what's happening right now on the world scene, look at the World Championships held in Italy last year," says Jim Small, MLB International's vice president of market development. "The U.S. finished ninth. Italy finished fourth. Australia finished fifth. What it shows is that the world is playing baseball and doing pretty well. Is the Italian National Team going to take on Ken Griffey and Mark McGwire and win? Probably not, but could they be competitive? It's possible."

Just about every country that fields a national team has its own version of a Griffey, McGwire or Tony Gwynn. These players have excelled internationally and professionally in their homelands. For various reasons they have not competed in the Major Leagues, but that won't preclude them from representing their countries alongside Major League stars in a World Cup event. Given that prospect, here's your chance to get to know some players who have flourished abroad before they become household names in the U.S.



TOP TO BOTTOM: JAPAN'S SUPERSTAR ICHIRO SUZUKI, ALONG WITH VETERANS LEE JEONG-BUM AND SUN DONG-YOL OF KOREA, DOMINATE THE GAME IN THE FAR EAST.

JAPAN

ICHIRO SUZUKI

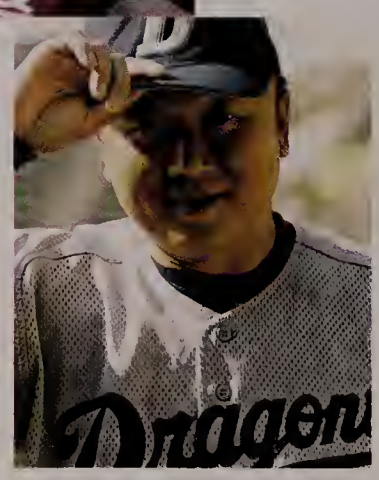
JAPAN HAS produced a handful of Major Leaguers, all of whom are pitchers. American fans likely won't have to wait for a World Cup to see Japan's best position player. Suzuki could opt to sign with a big league club after his current contract with the Orix Blue Wave expires midway through the 2001 season.

"It doesn't matter if I'm the first (Japanese position player) or not," says the 25-year-old Suzuki. "I would just like the opportunity to do it. I want to face the best in baseball."

The left-handed hitting Suzuki, who actually trained with Griffey at the Mariners camp during Spring Training, has won five batting titles and three MVP awards. A center fielder, he possesses a strong throwing arm and is renowned for his defensive ability and speed.

KOREA

SUN DONG-YOL



LIKE JAPAN, Korea is noted more for its pitching prospects than everyday players. Los Angeles right-hander Chan Ho Park notwithstanding, Dong-yol arguably is the best pitcher Korea has ever produced. From 1985 to '95, he played for Korea's Haitai Tigers, a team that has won nine championships since 1982. He now plays for the Chunichi Dragons.

During his 11-year Korean career, Dong-yol, who throws heat in the low- to mid-90s, posted a 146-40 record with a 1.20 ERA and tallied 132 saves.

"Wherever he's gone he's been admired and revered," says Thomas St. John, an English-language journalist who covers Korean baseball. "He was Korea's first true sports legend and is now one of the most effective relievers in Japan."

THOMAS ST. JOHN (3)

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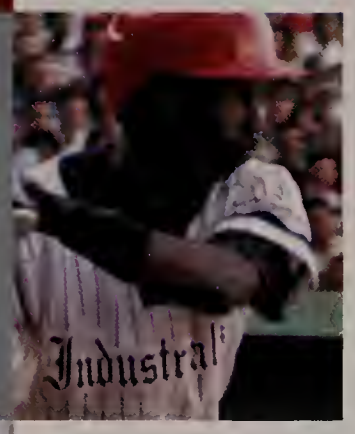
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CUBA'S NATIONAL TEAM OWES MUCH OF ITS SUCCESS TO VETERAN STARS OMAR LINARES (LEFT) AND GERMAN MESA (BELOW).



LEE JEONG-BUM

LIKE DONG-YOL, Jeong-bum played for the Haitai Tigers prior to joining Japan's Chunichi Dragons. Before the shortstop left the financially strapped club, Jeong-bum was expected to become the centerpiece of the Korean league. Korea's answer to Japan's Suzuki, he was nicknamed "Baseball Genius" by the national press.

According to St. John, Major League scouts who have seen him think he could be a starting shortstop in the Majors. "On the field, he has the skills of Ozzie Smith, the speed of Rickey Henderson and above-average power for his size."

During his five seasons in Korea, he hit .332 with 106 homers and 315 RBI (he batted a stellar .393 in '94). In addition, Jeong-bum possesses wheels, as he averaged 62 stolen bases per season during this stretch.

CUBA

GERMAN MESA

LONG BEFORE defensive wizard Rey Ordonez became a human highlight reel for the Mets, he played backup shortstop to the slick-fielding Mesa on the Cuban National Team.

"Everybody raved about Mesa being the greatest shortstop in history," says Peter C. Bjarkman, author of Baseball with a Latin Beat. "I thought (teammate Eduardo) Paret had the quickest pair of hands I'd ever seen. Then I saw Mesa and my attitude turned around 100 percent. He made plays I haven't seen anybody outside of Ozzie Smith make."

Adds former Team USA coach Ron Polk, "Defensively, he's a game turner. His defense is ahead of his offense, but he's still a good table setter."

During the Baltimore-Cuba series, the flashy shortstop played in the Havana contest, but was left off the team that traveled to Baltimore.

OMAR LINARES

WIDELY REGARDED as the world's best amateur player, Linares was the youngest player ever to appear in Cuba's National Series, at the age of 15. Now 32, the stalwart third baseman who combines quick hands and a rifle arm with a solid offensive game continues to enjoy terrific success as the leader on the Cuba National Team.

"He does it all," says Polk. "He's got the arm, good defense. He's the total package."

During the historic two-game series played between Cuba and Baltimore this past March and May, Linares was shut out at the plate in Havana but went 4 for 4 and made some fine defensive plays at the hot corner in Camden Yards. Several Major League teams have reportedly offered him lucrative contracts, but the slugger has never entertained the thought of defecting.

LATIN BEAT

About 10 minutes from the capital city of Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, 40 young players in Florida Marlins attire gather on any given summer morning. They are on the field by 7:30 a.m. and playing a game three hours later. By 2:30 p.m., the group surrenders the field to another collection of talented teens with untapped potential and Major League dreams. Scenes like these are common throughout the Dominican Republic and other parts of Latin America.



CASTILLA

"In the last 10 years, the creation of the Dominican Summer Rookie League and the investment of clubs in that league has helped us find talent in those counties," says Omar Minaya, the Mets' assistant GM and director of international scouting.

Puerto Rico (like Canada) is the only talent-rich country subject to the "First-Year Player Draft." Meanwhile, countries such as the Dominican, Mexico and Venezuela are teeming with players looking to baseball for a better life, hoping to blossom into the next Pedro Martinez, Vinny Castilla or Ozzie Guillen.



GALARRAGA



MARTINEZ

Like Guillen, Andres Galarraga and Omar Vizquel, more big leaguers are coming out of Venezuela.

"Venezuela has emerged as a productive place in recent years because of the efforts of ball clubs to scout that country as much as they do the Dominican," says Bill Clark, the Braves' director of international scouting.

Adds Minaya, "Clubs well represented in Latin America with personnel and investments will see the fruits reflected in the winning percentage of their Major League team."

VICTOR BALDIZON (3); ASSOCIATED PRESS AP (MESA); MLB PHOTOS: PILLING (CASTILLA); ROSATO (GALARRAGA); ZAGARIS (MARTINEZ)





PAUL GONZALEZ (FAR LEFT) MANS THE HOT CORNER FOR THE BRISBANE BANDITS; THE ABL'S 1999 CHAMPION GOLD COAST COUGARS (INSET).

AUSTRALIA

PAUL GONZALEZ

A 29-YEAR OLD third baseman originally from Fort Worth, Tex., Gonzalez was a 10th-round draft pick of the Padres in 1990 and played for the U.S. Junior National Team in '87, winning the squad's MVP award. After spending six seasons in the Minors, he moved to Australia, became a citizen, and now plays in the Australian League.

This season, the slugger — who led the Italian League in homers and RBI in '98 and — signed a one-year contract with the Orix Blue Wave in Japan.

"Playing in Japan is a dream," says Gonzalez, who was voted MVP of the 1997 World Championships. "I had the opportunity to play in the U.S. I didn't play in the big leagues, but I have no regrets."

GARY WHITE

IN THE MID-1980S, White drove home the winning run at Shea Stadium for a 19-and-under Australian team against the U.S. He later played Minor League ball for Philadelphia, won a bronze medal at the '97 International Cup and was named MVP of the Australian League in '96. According to White, however, these accolades would pale compared to "being able to play for your home country in the 2000 Olympics in your home stadium." (Sydney hosts the 2000 Summer Olympics.)

This past season the 31-year-old catcher, who spent three years in the Phillies organization, became the first catcher in ABL history to win the Gold Glove Award. He still can't pinpoint why he left the U.S., but doesn't have any regrets. He's competed in two Olympics and has had a prominent role helping Australian baseball establish itself on the world stage.

KOREAN BLEACHER BUMS

While it may generally be true that fans are fans, each country definitely has its own traditions. In Korea, fans strike two stick balloons together called "Bangers" to rally their teams and the noise can be deafening. Also, like a lot of high school football games in the U.S., their fans are segregated — home fans sit on the first-base side and visitors along the third-base side. Opposing fans continually try to out-cheer each other throughout the game and under no circumstances do they mingle with their adversaries. Naturally, all this cheering creates an appetite. When it comes to ballpark cuisine, peanuts and Cracker Jack aren't the snacks of choices; instead, Korean fans enjoy dried squid and "kimbap," or rice rolled in dried seaweed.



SPORT THE LIBRARY (GONZALEZ); ASSOCIATED PRESS AP (GOLD COAST COUGARS); THOMAS ST. JOHN (KOREAN FANS)

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CROWN ROYALE

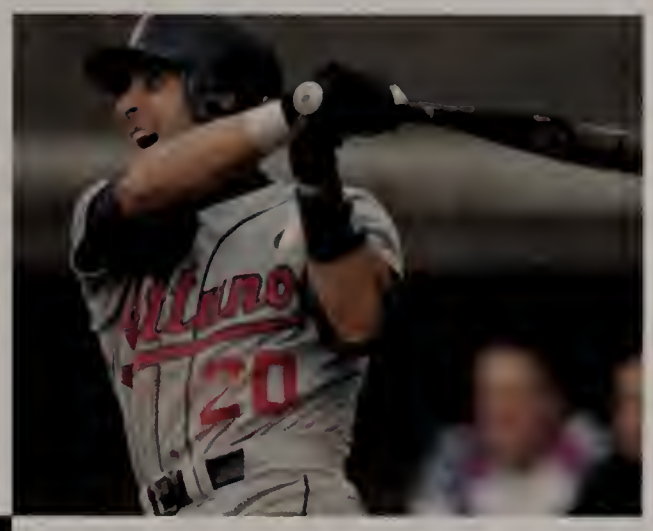
ITALY

RUGGERO BAGIALEMANI

THERE'S A TOWN in Italy that greets visitors with the sign, "Welcome to Nettuno, Baseball City." Bagialemani has played his entire career with Nettuno of the Italian League. The 36-year-old third baseman has also competed in 195 games for the Italian National Team and in three Olympics.

The former slick-fielding shortstop has captured 14 gold glove awards and his 1,349 career hits are an Italian League record. In the early '80s, the Orioles and Brewers showed interest in signing him when he first started playing professionally.

These days, Bagialemani is focused on achieving his latest goal. "I've been training very hard to compete in my fourth Olympics," he says. The prospect of a baseball World Cup would, no doubt, keep this intensely motivated ballplayer in top shape.



RUGGERO BAGIALEMANI (RIGHT) AND ROBERTO BIANCHI HOPE TO LEAD ITALY THROUGH THE 2000 OLYMPICS.



ROBERTO BIANCHI

IF TEAM ITALY qualifies for the 2000 Olympics, chances are Bianchi will have played a significant part. Bianchi began playing in the streets of Milano during the '70s, progressed through the Italian Leagues and made his National Team debut as a catcher in 1982.

The Orioles attempted to sign him in the early '80s, but he stayed home to help establish Team Italy. Now an outfielder, Bianchi is a seven-time batting champ and three-time triple-crown winner. He's also the Italian League's career leader in home runs (287) and RBI (1,157).

"Bianchi is the best hitter Italy has seen, and would have succeeded in the U.S.," says Michael Zambelli of *Baseball Italia*.

HOLLAND

MARCEL JOOST

ALONG WITH Italy, Holland and Spain have the most competitive national teams in Europe. Joost, who has played for Kinheim of the Dutch Majors over the last six seasons of his stellar 19-year professional career, has long been the headliner in his country.

Like the ageless Gwynn, this sweet-swinging outfielder has never had a problem getting wood on the ball. He owns a career batting average of .362 and is the all-time Dutch Majors leader in games played (691), hits (978), runs scored (652) and home runs (130).

Asked how he got started playing baseball, Joost simply states, "When I was 6, my father saw an article in the newspaper for kids who wanted to play baseball and I went with him. I'm still having fun doing it."

SPAIN

FELIX CANO

MUCH LIKE Joost, Cano also boasts top billing in his country. He has appeared in more than 100 international games and is a three-time player of the year award winner. Against Puerto Rico in the 1992 Olympic Games, Cano's grand slam sent Spain to victory.

"It was one of those experiences that's hard to imagine," says the third baseman and pitcher. "It's the greatest thing an athlete can achieve."

A career .284 hitter, the versatile Cano possesses a strong arm that has afforded him the unusual opportunity to pitch as well as to be a position player.

Says Ricardo Cordia, general manager of the Spanish National team: "He's a player that has given everything to the team. He has a winning character and his No. 17 likely will be retired." ◆

Juan C. Rodriguez covers the Florida Marlins for Florida Today *and* Gannett News Service.

SAME GAME, ONLY DIFFERENT

Baseball abroad is not unlike the game played in the United States. The basic rules — three strikes, four balls, three outs, nine innings — are the same throughout the world. Yet American fans attending a game overseas would notice a handful of nuances unique to baseball in that country.

The most striking contrast in the world amateur game involves equipment. The Olympics, Pan American Games, Intercontinental Cup and other prominent competitions are contended by hitters wielding aluminum bats. As a result, fly balls travel farther and it's more difficult for pitchers to jam hitters.

野球

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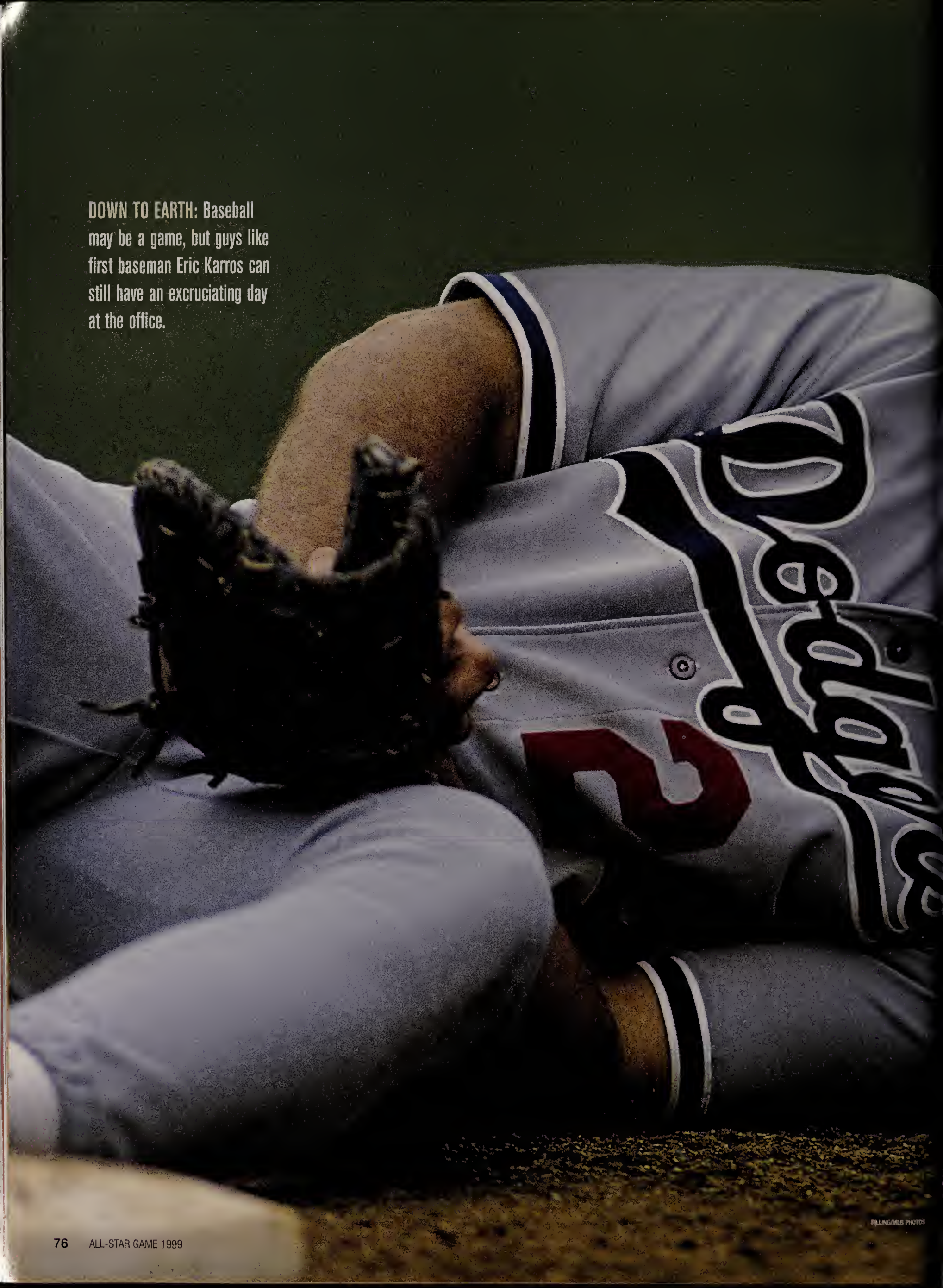
BASEBALL, IN JAPANESE, SPANISH AND KOREAN... 3 STRIKES IS STILL AN OUT.

In general, ballparks tend to have more hitter-friendly dimensions than in the U.S. and do not accommodate as many fans (the largest facility in Italy has a capacity 10,000). However, players who can take advantage of the cozier ballparks are not in abundance.

"There are not as many big, fast, powerful guys as in the U.S.," says Jim Colborn, the Seattle Mariners' director of Pacific Rim scouting. "The game compared to the American game is much more defense oriented. They play to protect rather than attack. When Americans watch it, it doesn't seem as interesting, but you play them and they're hard to beat."

FBIS PRESS OFFICE 21

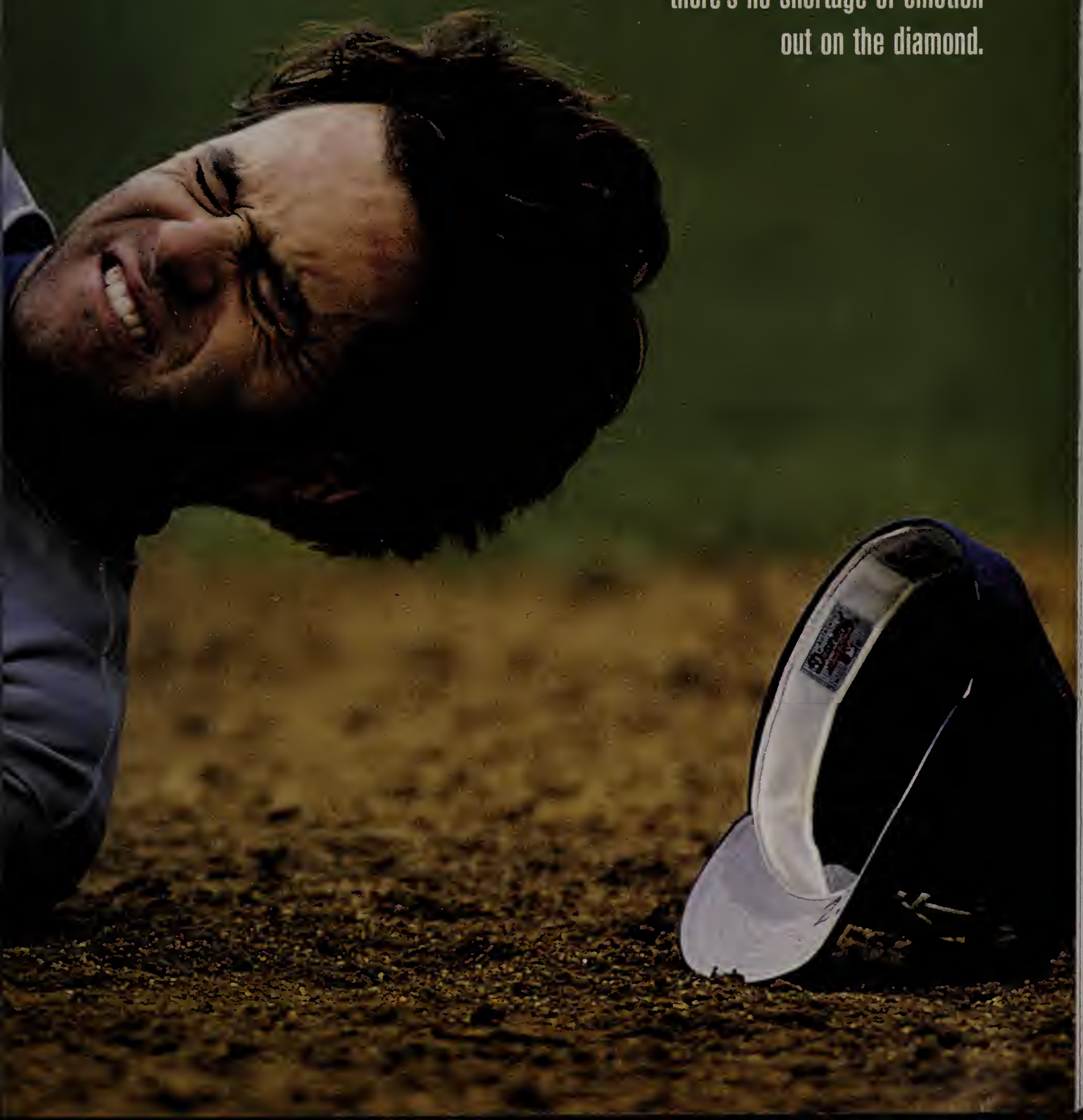
DOWN TO EARTH: Baseball may be a game, but guys like first baseman Eric Karros can still have an excruciating day at the office.

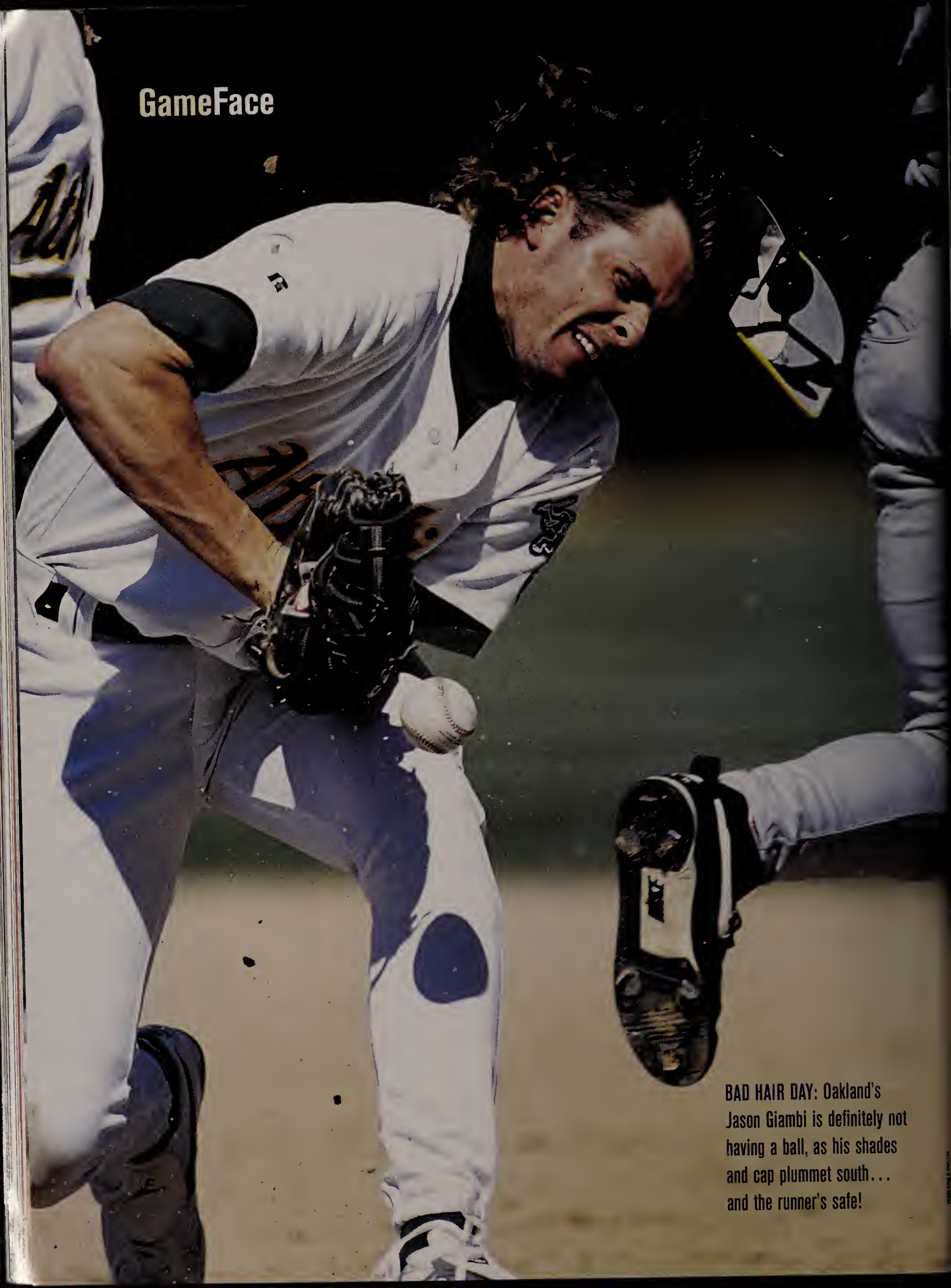


FILLING/MLB PHOTOS

GameFace

Agony, elation, intensity...
these snapshots reveal
there's no shortage of emotion
out on the diamond.





BAD HAIR DAY: Oakland's Jason Giambi is definitely not having a ball, as his shades and cap plummet south... and the runner's safe!



Michelle Pfeiffer gets a thrill from a child's first smile, first steps or first words. She also knows it's essential to interact with children by talking, singing, reading or simply hugging–especially during the crucial first three years, when their brains grow to 90% of their adult size. That's why Michelle supports "I Am Your Child," an initiative providing important child development information to parents and caregivers. Which is exactly what you'll find at firstyears.excite.com–a resource for those who are looking for critical facts and guidance on child development. What's more, when you personalize your Excite start page at www.excite.com, Excite will donate $2 to "I Am Your Child"–which should excite anyone who cares about kids.

I AM YOUR CHILD

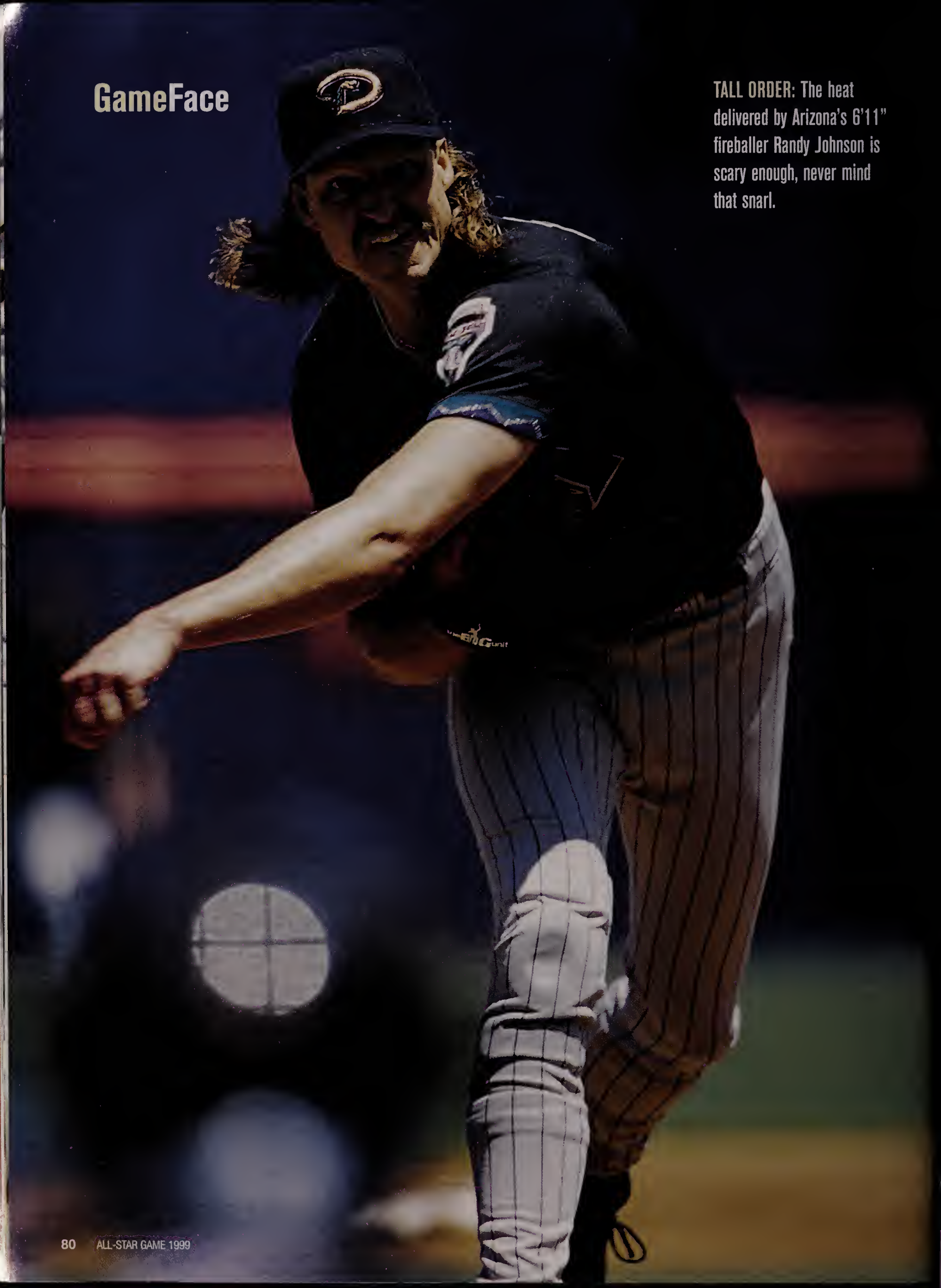
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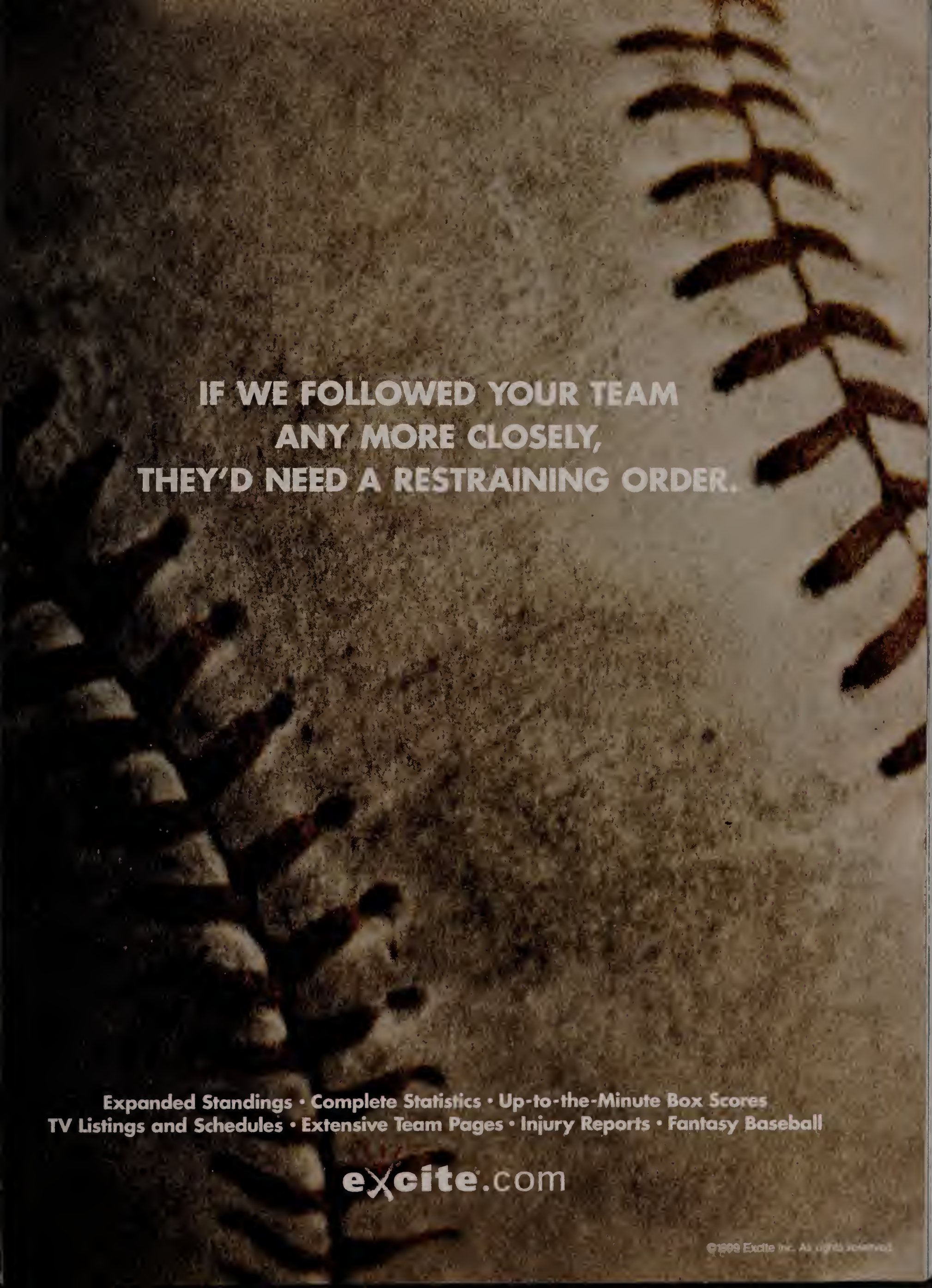
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Photograph by Norman Jean Roy

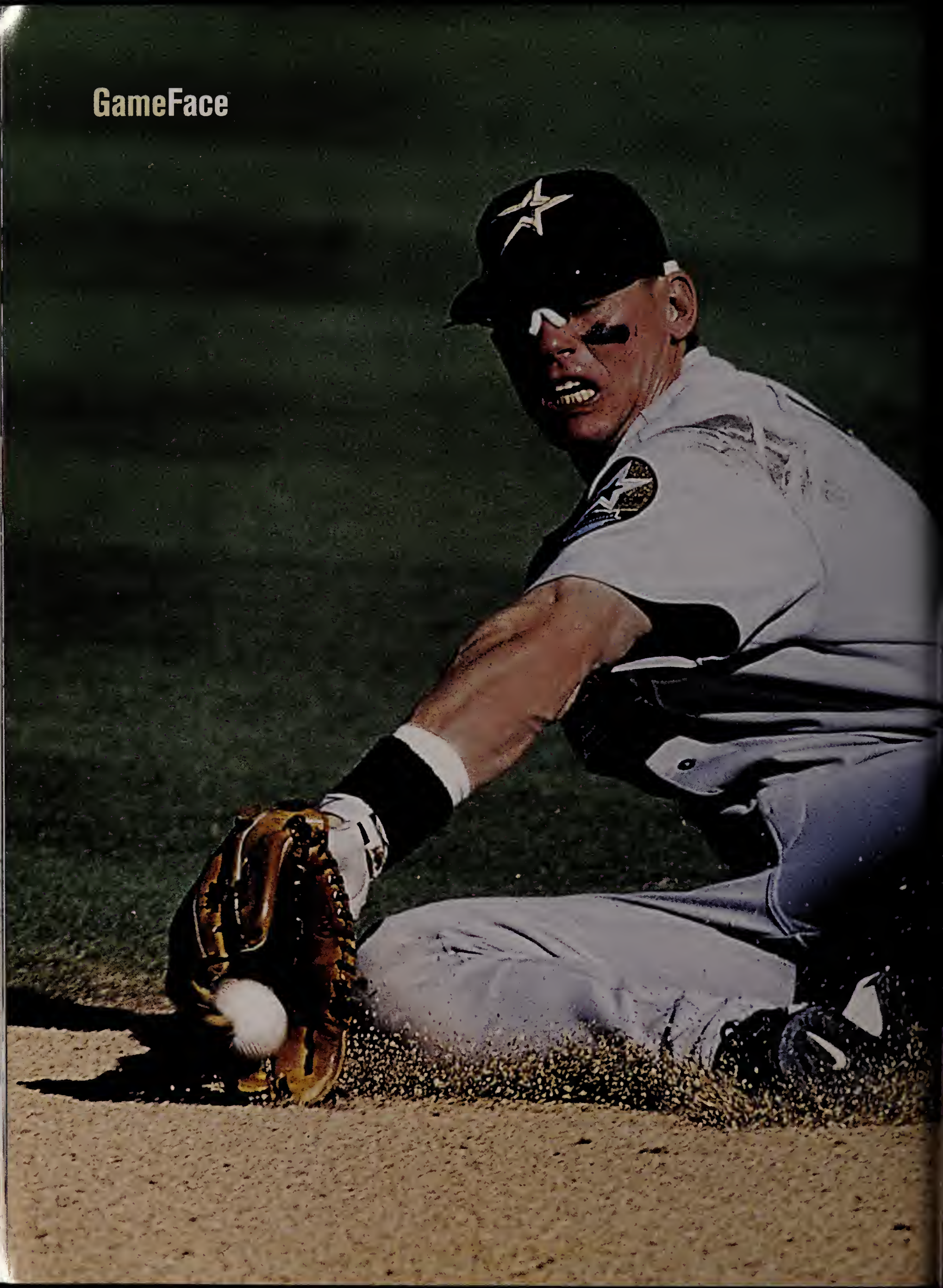
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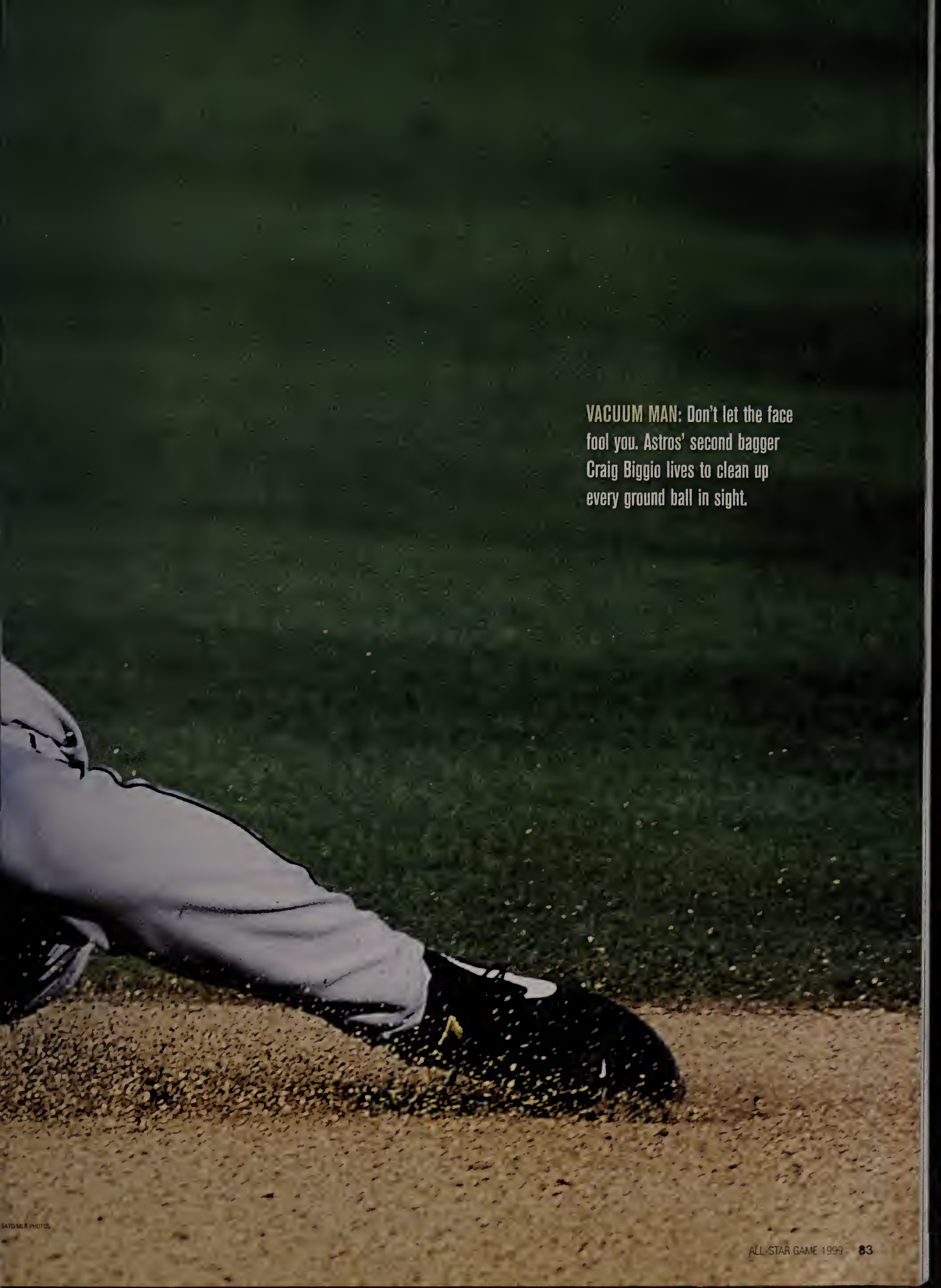


TALL ORDER: The heat delivered by Arizona's 6'11" fireballer Randy Johnson is scary enough, never mind that snarl.


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GameFace





VACUUM MAN: Don't let the face fool you. Astros' second bagger Craig Biggio lives to clean up every ground ball in sight.

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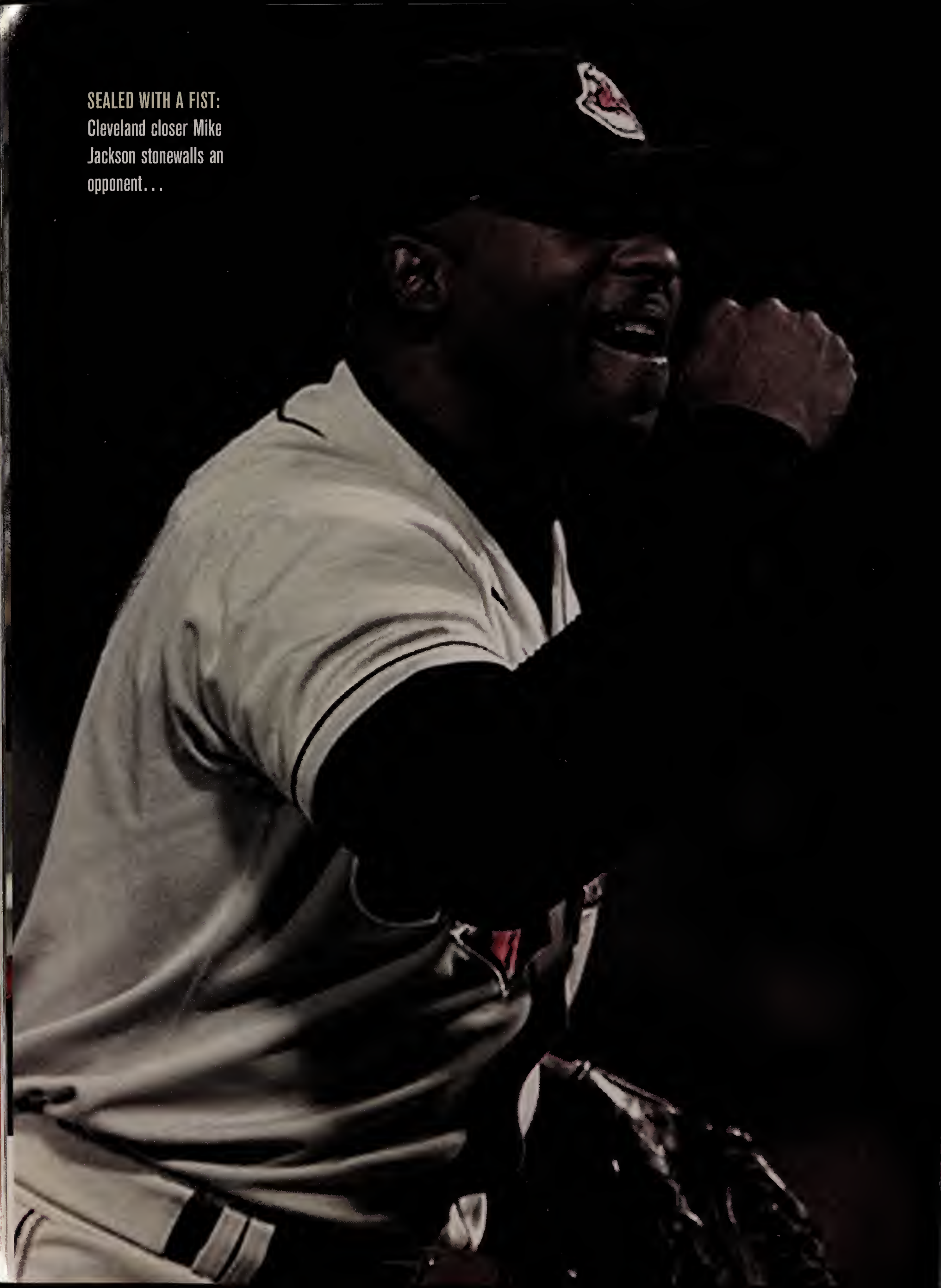
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GameFace

HEART OF TEXAS: Catcher Ivan Rodriguez ignites his team with knee-dropping, fist-pumping enthusiasm after sliding home safely.



SEALED WITH A FIST: Cleveland closer Mike Jackson stonewalls an opponent...



. . . while Yankee ace Roger Clemens celebrates a clutch K.

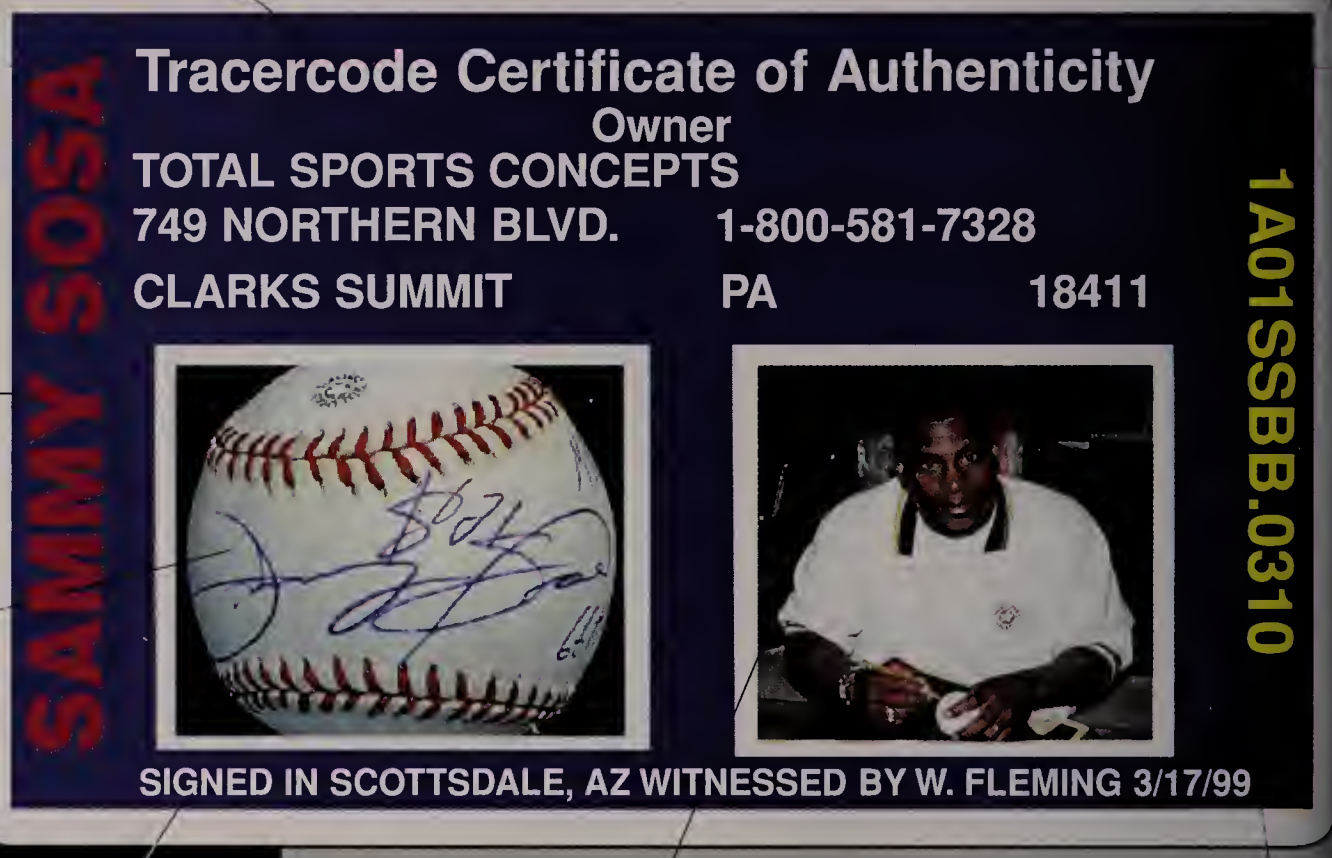
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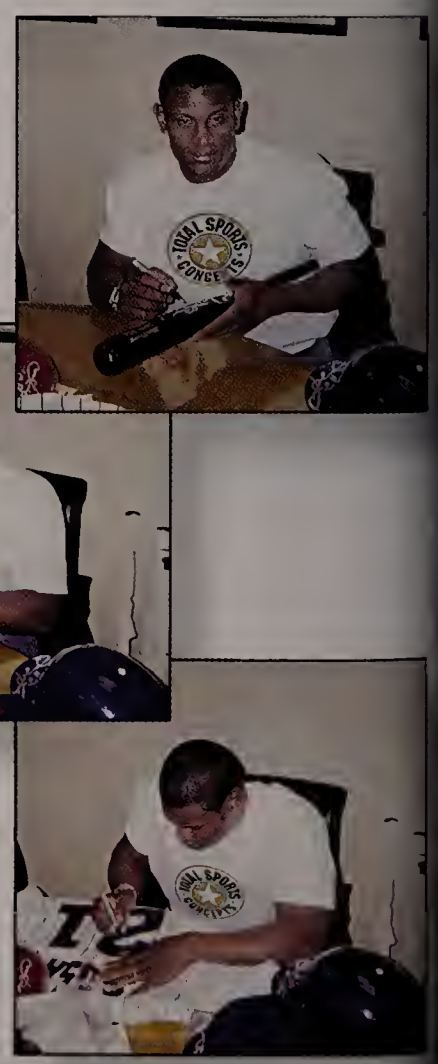
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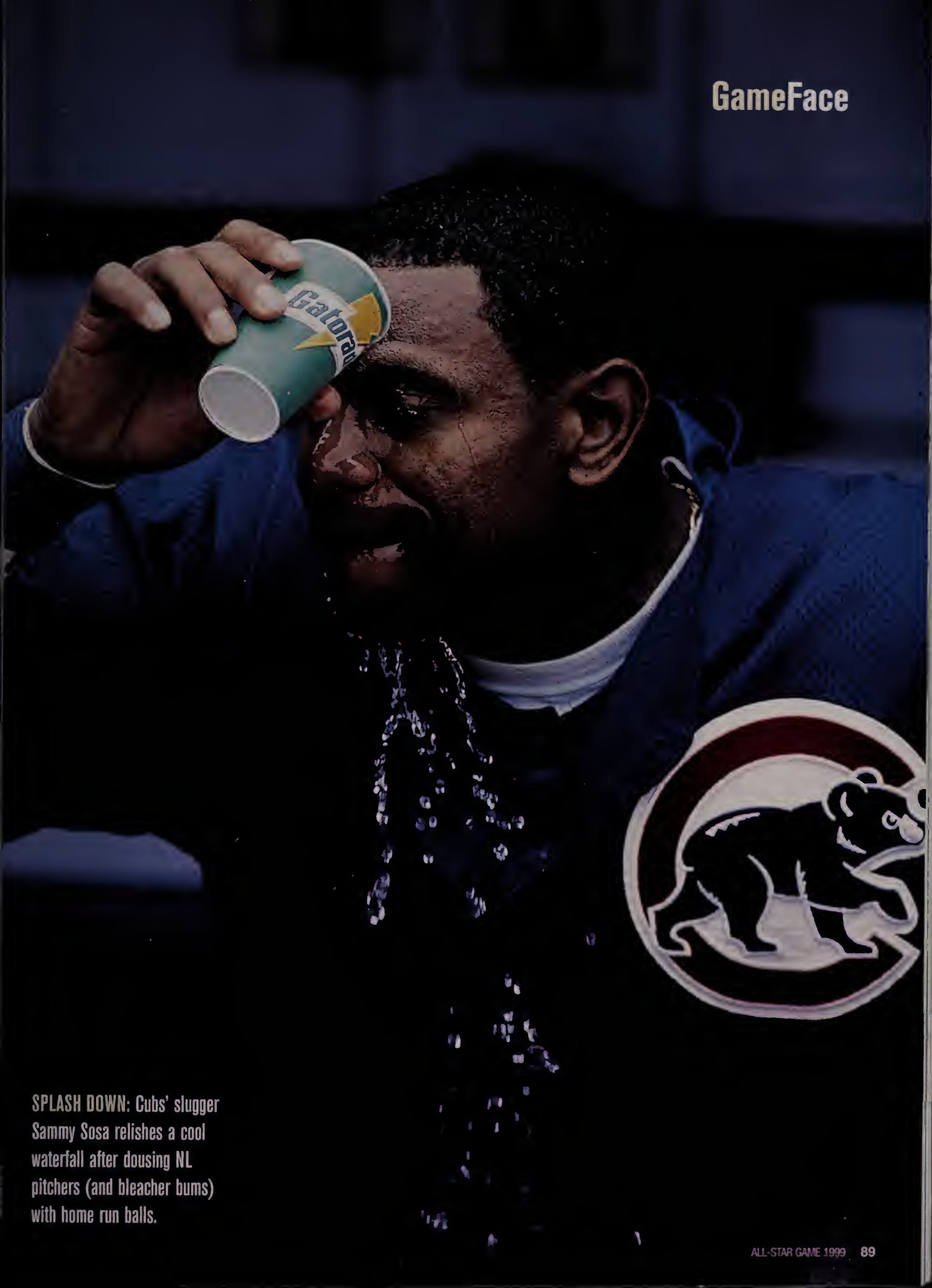
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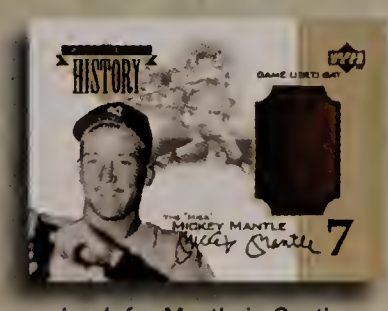
SPLASH DOWN: Cubs' slugger Sammy Sosa relishes a cool waterfall after dousing NL pitchers (and bleacher bums) with home run balls.

GET A GRIP: Despite the occasional line drive that eludes his grasp, single-season home run king Mark McGwire still has the baseball world in his hand.

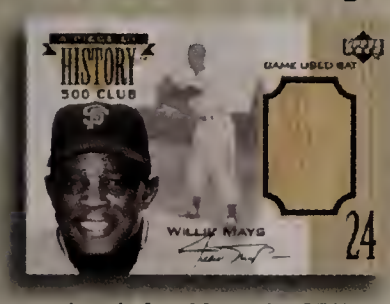


The home run ultimately lands, but the moment goes on forever.

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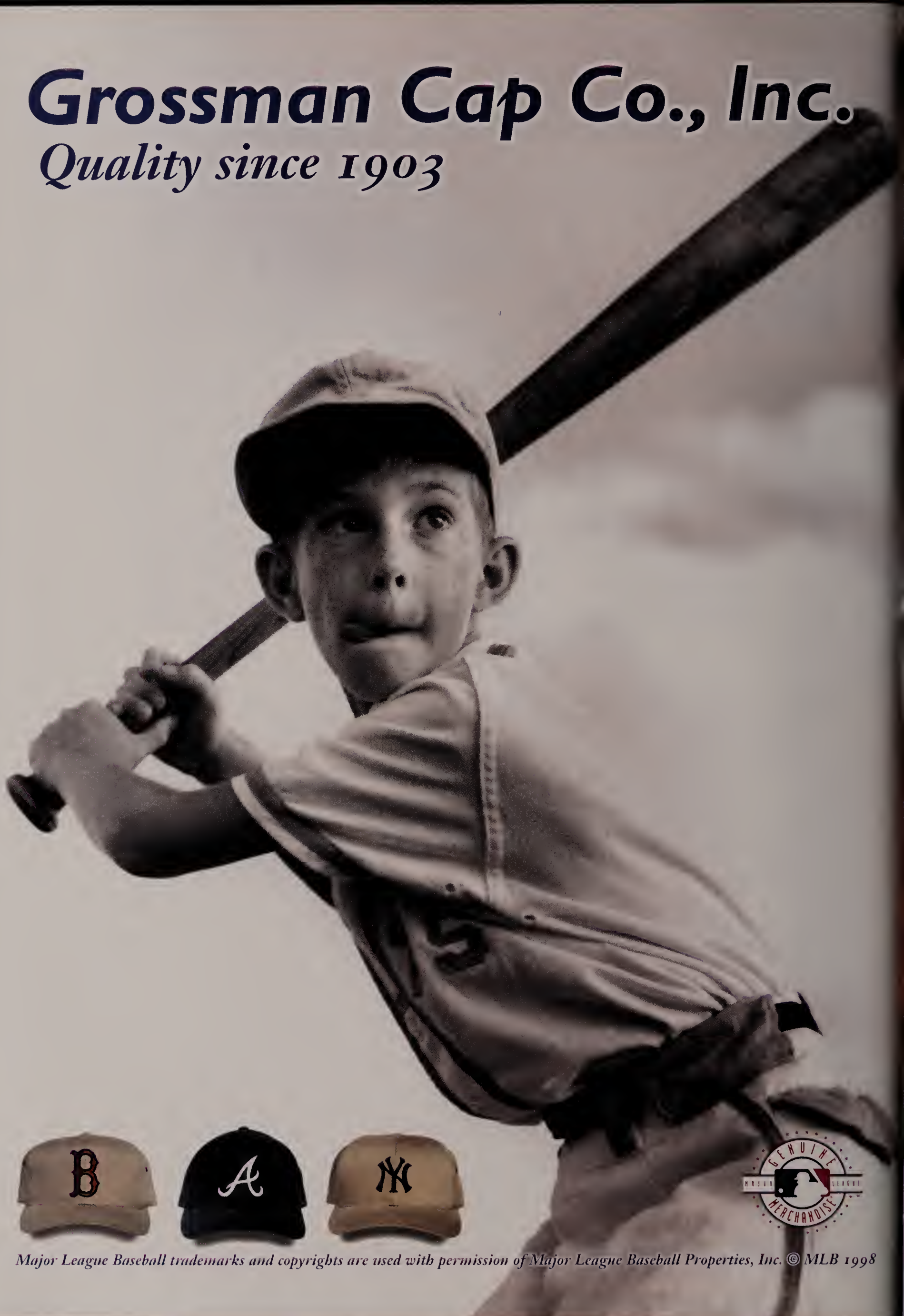
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GameFace

GLOVE HURTS: Leather-eating pitcher Rocky Coppinger was, no doubt, warned that there'd be days like these.



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BOSTON

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SCORECARD SECTION

★

HOW TO SCORE

SAMPLE SCORESHEET

Team	1	2
Center Fielder	3 2 / ④ —	8
Shortstop	6-4 / BB	6
1st Baseman	3 / ⑤ FC	K
3rd Baseman	= / ⑤	
Right Fielder	SB 2 / 6-2 —	
Left Fielder	SB / —	
Designated Hitter	FC	
2nd Baseman	4	
Catcher		=
Totals (R / H)	3 / 4	0 / 1

INNING 1 / INNING 2

- singled, advanced to 2nd on next batter's walk, took 3rd on fielder's choice, scored on No. 4 batter's double
- flied out to centerfield
- walked, later forced out, shortstop to 2nd base
- popped out to shortstop
- reached on fielder's choice, advanced to 3rd on next batter's double, scored on No. 5 batter's single
- struck out swinging
- doubled, scored on No. 5 batter's single
- singled, advanced to 2nd on next batter's single, stole 3rd base, thrown out on grounder, shortstop to catcher
- singled, stole 2nd base
- reached 1st on fielder's choice
- popped out to 2nd base
- doubled

Number Players As Follows:
1 – Pitcher
2 – Catcher
3 – First Baseman
4 – Second Baseman
5 – Third Baseman
6 – Shortstop
7 – Left Fielder
8 – Center Fielder
9 – Right Fielder
DH – Designated Hitter (Used exclusively in the American League)

Symbols For Plays:
Single —
Double =
Triple ≡
Home Run ≣
Sacrifice – SH
Walk – BB
Strikeout – K
Balk – BK
Foul Fly – F
Fielders Choice – FC
Hit By Pitch – HP
Wild Pitch – WP
Passed Ball – PB
Stolen Base – SB
Force Out – FO
Double Play – DP
Error – E
Sacrifice Fly – SF

Additional Symbols:
IBB – Intentional Walk
Ж – Called out on strikes
L – Line Drive
B – Bunt
U – Unassisted

Different fans have different methods of keeping a scorecard, and many use their own notations. But here's a simple method:

First fill in the starting lineup. When the game begins, start in the column corresponding to the correct inning and go to the box next to the name of the hitter who is at the plate. If the hitter makes an out, write down how he was put out according to the legend below. If the hitter grounds out to shortstop, for example, write in "6-3," which shows that the shortstop threw him out at first base. The notation for a fly to left, for example, would be "F7."

If the batter gets a hit, pencil in the hit according to which base he reached. The corners of the box represent the bases, with the lower-right corner being first. If he singles, pencil in a "–" in the lower right. If he doubles, pencil in a "=" in the upper right, and so on. If he walks, pencil in "BB" in the lower right. As the runner advances, mark the appropriate symbol in the appropriate corner.

If a runner scores, put a circle at the bottom of the box, and inside the circle put the symbol of the play and/or the player that drove him in. For example, if the number five hitter drives in two runs with a single, mark his single in the bottom right of his box and mark a circle with the number "5" in it in the boxes of the runners who score.

At the end of each inning, total the hits and runs for that inning only. At the end of the game you'll be able to add the innings total to arrive at the game score.

COMO ANOTAR EL JUEGO

MUESTRA DE UNA LIBRETA DE ANOTACIÓN

Equipo	1	2
Jardinero Central	3 2 / ④ —	8
Jardinero Corto	6-4 / BB	6
Primera Base	3 / ⑤ JS	P
Tercera Base	= / ⑤	
Jardinero Derecho	BR 2 / 6-2 —	
Jardinero Izquierdo	BR / —	
Bateador Designado	JS	
Segunda Base	4	
Receptor		=
Totales (R / H)	3 / 4	0 / 1

PRIMERA ENTRADA / SEGUNDA ENTRADA

- Conectó sencillo, avanzó a segunda base por bola recibida por el siguiente bateador, adelantó a tercera por jugada de selección anoto por doble del No. 4 bateador
- Out, en elevado al jardinero central
- Recibio base por bola, mas tarde fue forzado en la segunda base, de jardinero corto a el defensor del segundo saco
- Out, en elevado al jardinero corto
- Llegó a primera, por jugada deselección, avanzó a tercera base por doblete del próximo bateador, anoto por sencillo del No. 5 bateador
- Se ponchó tirándole al tercer strike
- Pegó doble, anotó por sencillo del No. 5 bateador
- Conectó sencillo, avanzó a segunda por incojible del bateador siguiente, se robó la tercera base, fue retirado en el plato. Del paracorto al receptor
- Sencillo, se robó la segunda base
- Llegó a primera base por jugada de selección
- Out, en elevado a segunda
- Bateo Doblete

Numero Los Peloteros de la Siguiente Manera:
1 – Lanzador
2 – Receptor
3 – Primera Base
4 – Segunda Base
5 – Tercera Base
6 – Jardinero Corto
7 – Jardinero Izquierdo
8 – Jardinero Central
9 – Jardinero Derecho
DH – Bateador Designado (Usado exclusivamente en los parques de la liga Americana)

Símbolos Para Anotar Jugadas:
Sencillo —
Doble =
Triple ≡
Cuandrangular ≣
Sacrificio – SAC
Base por Bola – BB
Ponche – P
Movimiento Ilegal – MI
Elevado de Faul – F
Jugada de Selección – JS
Pelotazo – PO
Lanzamiento Errático – LE
Pasbol – PB
Base Robada – BR
Jugada Forzada – JF
Doble Jugada – D
Error – E
Elevado de Sacrificio – ES

Símbolos Adicionales:
BBI – Base por Bola Intencional
PC – Ponchete Cantado
L – Linea De Cañonazo
TB – Toque de Bola
JSA – Jugada sin Asistencia

Distintos fanáticos tienen diferentes métodos de llevar la anotación, además muchos usan sus propios signos o símbolos. Pero hay un metodo mas sencillo.

Primero escriba la alineación inicial. Cuando el juego comienze, anote en la columna correspondiente a la entrada correcta y vaya a el encasillado al lado del nombre de el bateador que está en el plato. Si el bateador es puesto fuera (out), escriba que fué out, de acuerdo a la leyenda que sigue a continuación. Si el bateador conecta arrastrado al jardinero corto, por ejemplo, anote "6-3", señalando que el paracorto tiró a primera base para retirarlo de out. El símbolo utilizado para anotar un elevado al jardín izquierdo, por ejemplo, sería "F 7".

Si el bateador batea un indiscutible, anótelo de acuerdo a la base alcanzada. Las esquinas del cuadrado representan las bases, la esquina inferior derecha sería la primera base. Si él conecta un sencillo, anote "-" en el lado derecho inferior. Si conecta doblete, escriba "=" en el lado superior derecho, y así sucesivamente. Si recibe una base por bola, escriba "BB" en el lado derecho inferior. Según los corredores vayan avanzando, escriba el símbolo apropiado en la respectiva esquina.

Si un corredor anota, ponga un círculo en la base del cuadrado, dentro ponga el símbolo de la jugada y/o el jugador que empujó la carrera. Por ejemplo, si el quinto bateador empujó dos carreras con un sencillo, anoté su sencillo en el lado derecho inferior del cuadrado y dibuje un círculo con el número "5" en las casillas de los corredores que anotaron.

Al finalizar cada entrada, sume todos los inconjibles y carreras de esa entrada solamente. Al final del juego usted podrá sumar los totales de cada entrada, llegando a la anotación final.

1999 ALL-STAR GAME SCORECARD

NATIONAL LEAGUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RBI	E
TOTALS	R / H														

2B
3B
HR
SB
S
SF
TIME
ATTENDANCE
UMPIRES
HP
IB
2B
3B
LF
RF

PITCHERS		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO

PITCHERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO

BOSTON ALL-STAR GAME '99

1999 ALL-STAR GAME SCORECARD

AMERICAN LEAGUE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RBI	E
TOTALS	R / H														

2B
3B
HR
SB
S
SF

PITCHERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO

PITCHERS	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO

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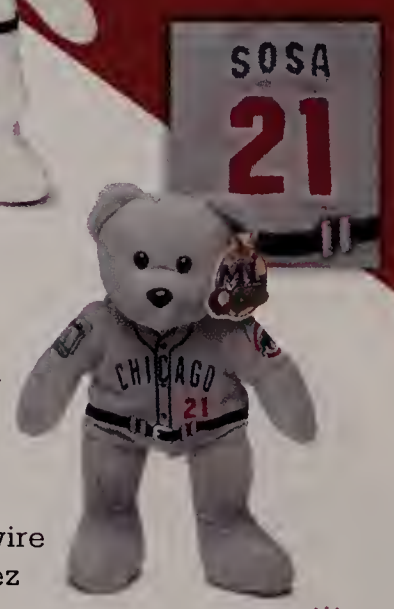


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Rockies - Walker	Mets - Piazza
White Sox - Thomas	Indians - Ramirez
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Cubs - Sosa	Cardinals - McGwire
Rangers - Gonzalez	Red Sox - Martinez

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BOSTON

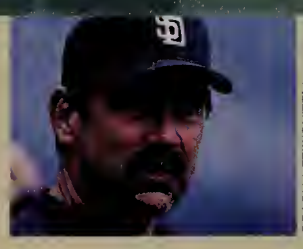
ALL-STAR GAME '99™

ROSTERS

THE PLAYERS AND COACHES SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 1999 ALL-STAR GAME

NATIONAL LEAGUE

MANAGER

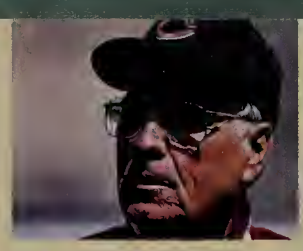


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

BRUCE BOCHY
MANAGER
SAN DIEGO PADRES

Bochy, who played on the Padres 1984 World Series team, has guided San Diego to a division title ('96) and an NL pennant ('98) during his first four years at the helm.

COACHES



VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

JACK McKEON
MANAGER
CINCINNATI REDS

This season, McKeon celebrates the 50th anniversary of his first year in professional baseball. He managed the Royals, Athletics and Padres prior to joining the Reds.



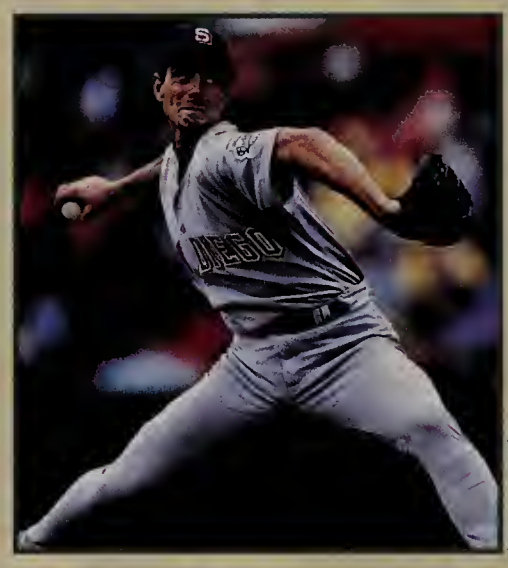
WACHTER/MLB PHOTOS

JIM RIGGLEMAN
MANAGER
CHICAGO CUBS

Now in his fifth season as the Cubs manager, Riggleman led Chicago to a 90-73 record and an NL Wild Card berth in '98, the club's first postseason appearance since 1989.

PLAYERS

ANDY ASHBY
PITCHER
SAN DIEGO PADRES



MANGIN/MLB PHOTOS

Ashby enjoyed a breakthrough season in '98 with 17 wins, while helping the Padres reach the World Series. A two-time All-Star, he continues to confound batters and is among the league leaders in shutouts.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
15	96.2	8	4	3.07	0

JEFF BAGWELL
FIRST BASE
HOUSTON ASTROS



REID/MLB PHOTOS

One of the game's best all-around players, Bagwell is near the top of the NL leaderboard in home runs, runs batted in, slugging percentage and runs scored. The four-time All-Star is just as effective in the field.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
284	74	91	26	71	.320

JAY BELL
SECOND BASE
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Bell has already eclipsed his career high in homers (21 in '97) with an impressive display of power during the first half. The 14-year veteran, a two-time All-Star, is making his first start in the Midsummer Classic.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
315	70	88	22	56	.279

KENT BOTTENFIELD
PITCHER
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS



SALAZ/MLB PHOTOS

Pitching in his fifth full season and making his first trip to the Midsummer Classic, Bottenfield is enjoying a career year. He is among the NL leaders in victories in '99 and is on pace to record his first 20-win season.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	100	12	3	3.69	0

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999

JEROMY BURNITZ
OUTFIELD
MILWAUKEE BREWERS


KEE/MLB PHOTOS

Burnitz enjoyed a career year last season, driving in over 100 runs for the first time. The left-handed slugger, who has earned his first All-Star Game selection, is well on his way to establishing new career marks.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
300	55	84	24	68	.280

PAUL BYRD
PITCHER
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

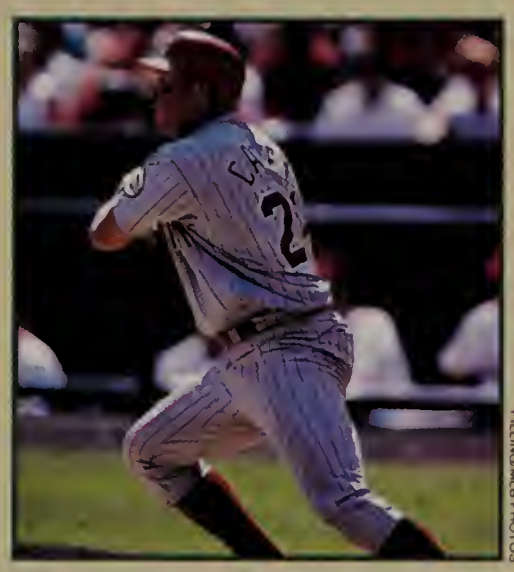

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Byrd, converted to a starter in '98, has not disappointed. Entering this season with 12 career victories, his '99 win total already hit double digits during the first half to help him earn his first All-Star Game selection.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	116	11	4	3.72	0

SEAN CASEY
FIRST BASE
CINCINNATI REDS


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This 25-year-old has been one of the most pleasant surprises during the first half, flirting with .400, while also battling for the league lead in hits and total bases. Casey is making his Midsummer Classic debut.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
294	52	109	17	55	.371

ALEX GONZALEZ
SHORTSTOP
FLORIDA MARLINS


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This slick-fielding 22-year-old is making a big splash in his first full season in The Show. Gonzalez ranks among NL rookie leaders in numerous offensive categories, including hits, runs and runs batted in.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
318	49	93	9	37	.292

LUIS GONZALEZ
OUTFIELD
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS


KEE/MLB PHOTOS

Gonzalez, a first-time All-Star, is in the midst of a career year at the plate. Heading into the break, he has already posted a 30-game hitting streak and is among the NL leaders in batting average and total bases.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
308	59	112	14	54	.364

VLADIMIR GUERRERO
OUTFIELD
MONTREAL EXPOS


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This 23-year-old with a rocket arm is also blessed with tremendous power. Guerrero, making his first appearance in the Mid-summer Classic, leads his club in home runs and runs batted in thus far in '99.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
294	48	83	16	61	.282

NATIONAL LEAGUE

TONY GWYNN
OUTFIELD
SAN DIEGO PADRES



VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

Gwynn is the yardstick by which pure hitters are measured today. An eight-time batting champ with a .339 career average entering '99, this 15-time All-Star is on the cusp of joining the elite 3,000 hits club.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
160	22	54	3	20	.338

MIKE HAMPTON
PITCHER
HOUSTON ASTROS



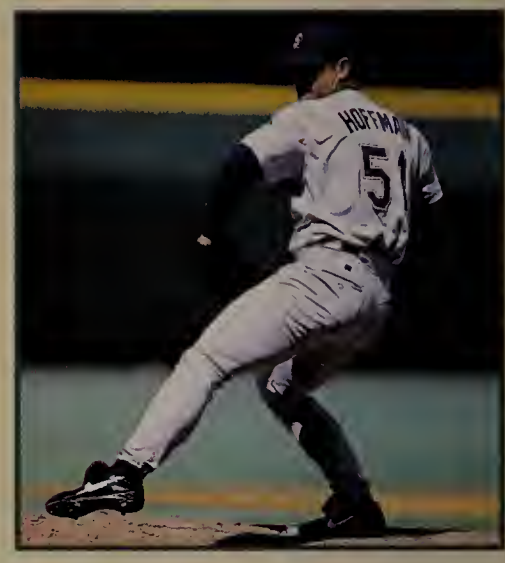
PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Hampton, making his first All-Star Game appearance, has recorded at least 10 victories during each of his past three seasons. The left-handed hurler ranks among the NL leaders in victories and ERA this year.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	118.1	10	3	3.04	0

TREVOR HOFFMAN
PITCHER
SAN DIEGO PADRES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This closer converted 53 out of 54 save opportunities last season to set a new Major League record. Hoffman, a seven-year veteran and two-time All-Star, is once again positioned among the NL leaders in saves.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
34	34.1	0	3	3.15	20

RANDY JOHNSON
PITCHER
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS



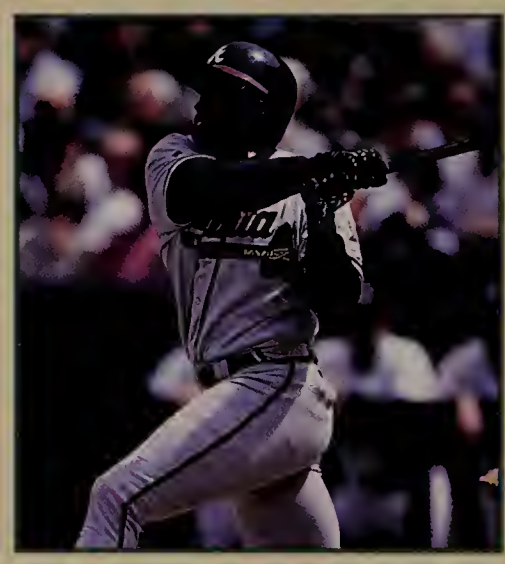
KEE/MLB PHOTOS

This fireballing southpaw, a six-time All-Star, still baffles hitters with his nasty heat. Johnson is running off with the NL strikeouts title, while battling for the league lead in victories, ERA and complete games.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
19	145.2	9	6	3.03	0

BRIAN JORDAN
OUTFIELD
ATLANTA BRAVES



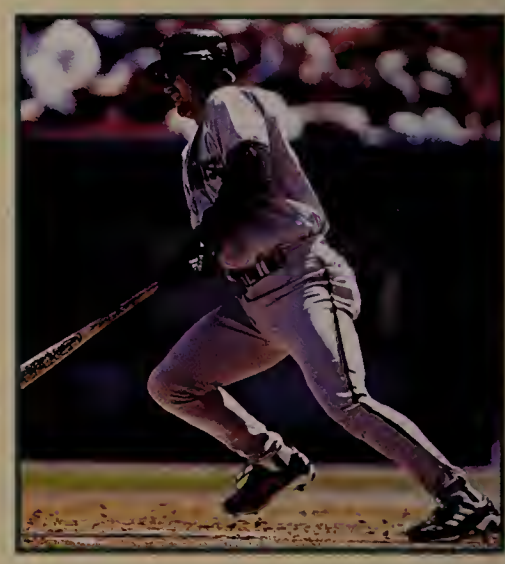
WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

Jordan, who spent the past seven seasons with the Cardinals, is making his All-Star Game debut. He leads his team in runs batted in and is on pace to shatter his career-best in this category, 104, set in 1996.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
315	58	93	16	68	.295

JEFF KENT
SECOND BASE
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

A first-time All-Star, Kent is one of just two second baggers since 1920 to drive in at least 120 runs in consecutive seasons. The eight-year veteran, on pace to make it three in a row, is also eyeing his first .300 season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
304	52	92	12	56	.303

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999.

BARRY LARKIN
SHORTSTOP
CINCINNATI REDS



MLB PHOTOS

Larkin, a 10-time All-Star Game selection, entered this season boasting a .300 career batting average and is not showing signs of slowing down. The 14-year veteran is also a three-time Gold Glove Award winner.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
292	50	94	9	52	.322

MIKE LIEBERTHAL
CATCHER
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Lieberthal is riding the crest of a breakout season that has him on the NL leaderboard in batting average, home runs and slugging percentage. This is the first All-Star Game selection for the sure-handed backstop.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
256	51	81	18	59	.316

JOSE LIMA
PITCHER
HOUSTON ASTROS



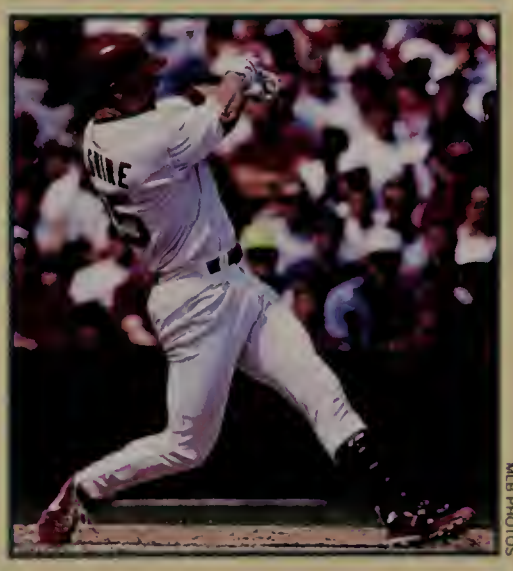
REID/MLB PHOTOS

The hard-throwing Lima is on target to record 20 victories this season, after coming into his own with a career-best 16 wins as a re-converted starter in '98. This marks his first selection to the All-Star Game.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	124.2	11	4	3.32	0

MARK McGWIRE
FIRST BASE
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS



MLB PHOTOS

The single-season home run king has continued his assault on NL pitching and is in the thick of the longball race again. It's no surprise that McGwire, an 11-time All-Star, also ranks among the NL leaders in walks.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
270	57	71	26	68	.263

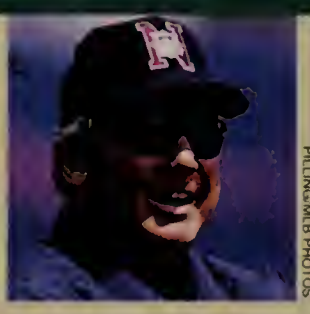
HONORARY CAPTAIN



PHOTO FILE/MLB PHOTOS

ORLANDO CEPEDA
This 1999 Hall of Fame inductee kicked off his 17-year career by earning the 1958 NL Rookie of the Year Award. Cepeda belted 379 homers and batted .297 lifetime.

UMPIRES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

TERRY TATA
FIRST BASE



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

ANGEL HERNANDEZ
THIRD BASE



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

LARRY VANOVER
RIGHT FIELD

NATIONAL LEAGUE

KEVIN MILLWOOD
PITCHER
ATLANTA BRAVES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This first-time All-Star continues to emerge as a key component to his team's celebrated starting rotation. Millwood is among the league leaders in strikeouts and is on pace to better his 17 victories from last season.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	109	10	4	3.30	0

ROBB NEN
PITCHER
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS



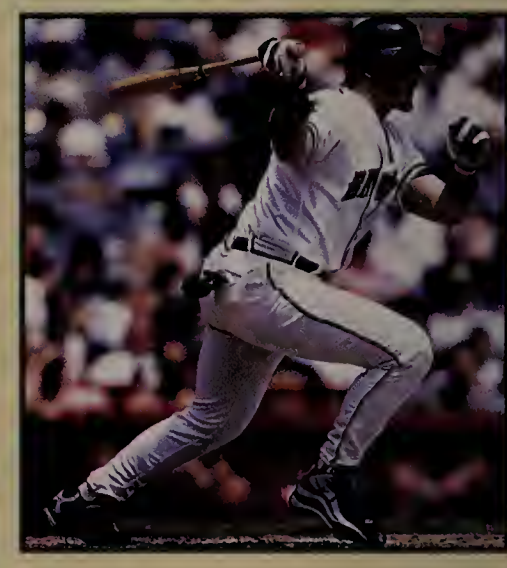
ZAGARIS/MLB PHOTOS

Nen, who is known to register 100 mph on the radar gun, is again among the NL leaders in saves and games pitched. This marks the second straight All-Star Game selection for the flame-throwing closer.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
40	42.2	3	2	3.59	21

DAVE NILSSON
CATCHER
MILWAUKEE BREWERS



WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

The 29-year-old from Brisbane, Australia is quietly enjoying a stellar season, while eyeing his second .300 batting average since breaking into the Majors in '92. Nilsson is making his first All-Star Game appearance.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
237	43	76	19	51	.321

MIKE PIAZZA
CATCHER
NEW YORK METS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Piazza, arguably the finest hitting catcher in baseball history, entered the '99 season boasting a .333 batting average during his career. He has been selected to the All-Star Game in each of his seven full seasons.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
252	43	77	16	47	.306

CURT SCHILLING
PITCHER
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES



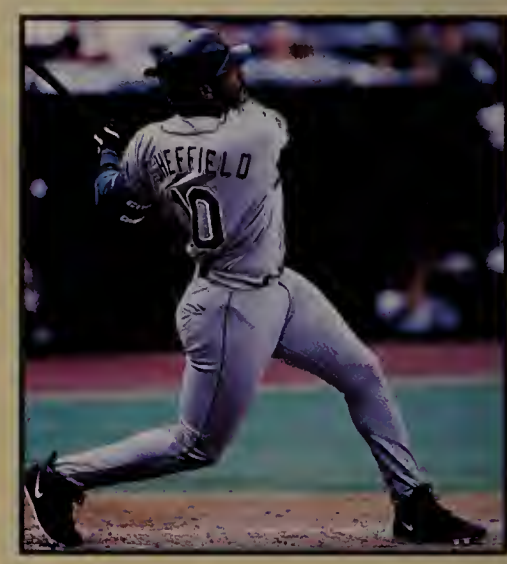
PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Schilling, a rare "throwback" workhorse in today's game, ranks among the league leaders in victories, innings pitched, strikeouts and complete games. The fireballer is making his third All-Star Game appearance.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
18	140.2	12	4	3.20	0

GARY SHEFFIELD
OUTFIELD
LOS ANGELES DODGERS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Sheffield is making his fifth appearance in the All-Star Game. Always a threat at the plate, he has been swinging a hot bat during the first half and is on pace to hit above .300 for the fourth time in five seasons.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
277	53	82	16	47	.296

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999.

SAMMY SOSA
OUTFIELD
CHICAGO CUBS



MLB PHOTOS

Sosa has made it clear his '98 dream season was not an aberration. This three-time All-Star is challenging for the NL lead in home runs, runs batted in and total bases and is on pace to surpass 60 dingers again.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
311	65	91	32	72	.293

ED SPRAGUE
THIRD BASE
PITTSBURGH PIRATES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Sprague, a power-hitting veteran of eight AL seasons, is making his All-Star Game debut. The 31-year-old is putting up his best home run and RBI numbers since '96, while easily topping his .242 career average.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
270	45	82	15	49	.304

TRAINERS



GREG LYNN
CINCINNATI REDS



DAVID TUMBAS
CHICAGO CUBS

BILLY WAGNER
PITCHER
HOUSTON ASTROS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Wagner is making his first All-Star Game appearance. This flame-throwing closer, who is positioned among the NL leaders in saves, should easily shatter his career-high (30 in '98) in that category this season.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
31	35.2	1	1	1.77	20

LARRY WALKER
OUTFIELD
COLORADO ROCKIES



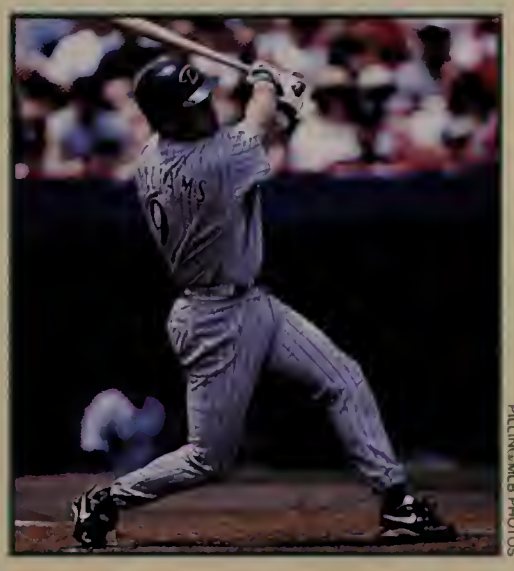
WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

One of only three hitters since 1930 who have batted above .360 in consecutive seasons, Walker is eyeing the trifecta as he battles for the '99 NL batting crown. This is his fourth selection to the All-Star Game.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
257	67	97	24	73	.377

MATT WILLIAMS
THIRD BASE
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

A revitalized Williams, balancing power with average, is among the NL leaders in home runs, hits, RBI and batting average. This is the fifth All-Star Game selection for the three-time Gold Glove Award winner.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
333	61	107	21	75	.321

AMERICAN LEAGUE

MANAGER

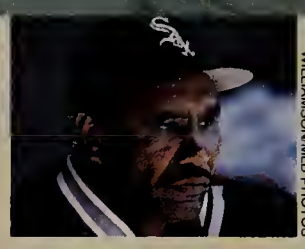


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

JOE TORRE
MANAGER
NEW YORK YANKEES

The New York field general is managing his second All-Star Game after leading the Yankees to their second World Series championship in the last three seasons.

COACHES



WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

JERRY MANUEL
MANAGER
CHICAGO WHITE SOX

Manuel rallied the White Sox to the fourth-best record in the Major Leagues after the All-Star break last season, which was also his first year as a big league skipper.



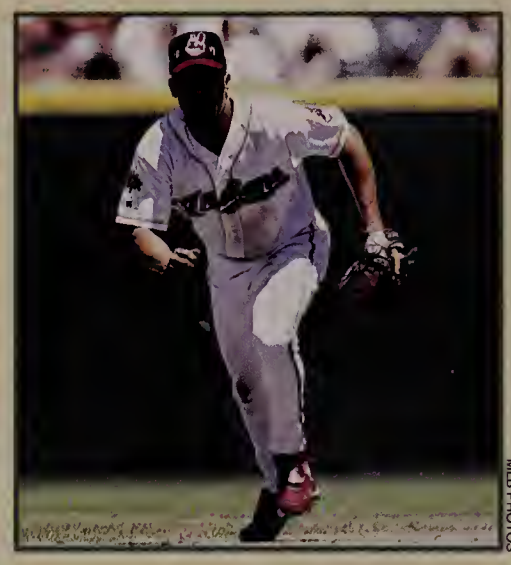
KEE/MLB PHOTOS

JIMY WILLIAMS
MANAGER
BOSTON RED SOX

Currently in his third season at the helm for Boston, Williams boasted a career record of 451-395 entering 1999. He led the Red Sox to last year's AL Wild Card.

PLAYERS

ROBERTO ALOMAR
SECOND BASE
CLEVELAND INDIANS



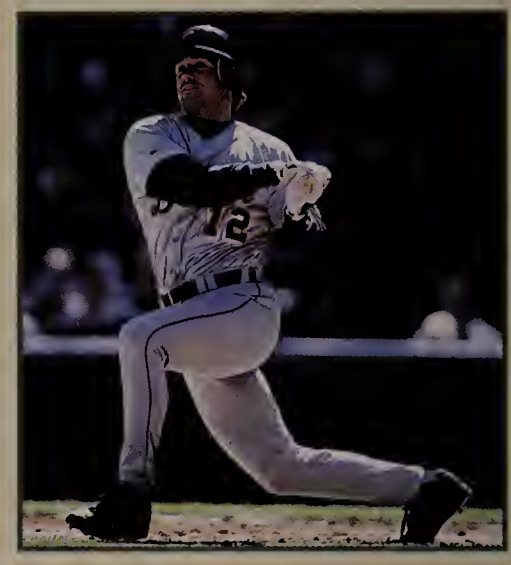
MLB PHOTOS

The Indians solved their lingering second base problem by acquiring this 10-time All-Star. One of the finest all-around players in the game, Alomar boasts seven Gold Gloves and a .302 career batting average.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
297	77	100	12	59	.337

BRAD AUSMUS
CATCHER
DETROIT TIGERS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Ausmus is making his first trip to the All-Star Game after putting together solid hitting with his always consistent defensive play. He's in position to challenge his best average at the plate — .293 in 1995.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
222	25	60	7	33	.270

JOSE CANSECO
DESIGNATED HITTER
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS



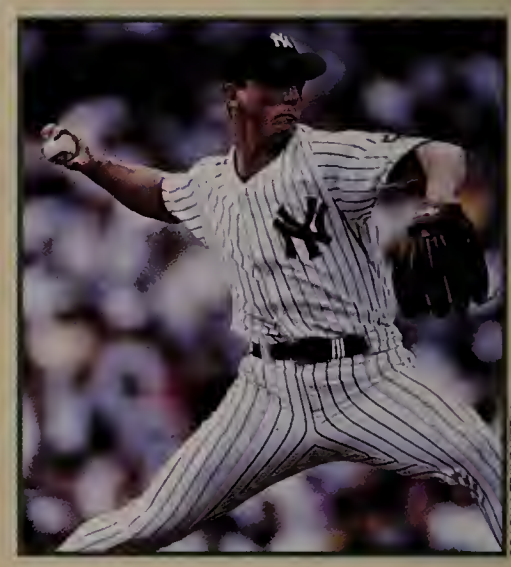
WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

The Devil Rays' powerful cleanup hitter is making his sixth trip to the Midsummer Classic. Canseco, who ranks in the top 30 all-time in home runs, has been among the Major League leaders in dingers all season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
300	61	84	30	66	.280

DAVID CONE
PITCHER
NEW YORK YANKEES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

This 36-year-old right-hander mystifies batters by throwing his pitches from every conceivable arm angle. Cone is among the AL leaders in victories and ERA, and is making his fifth All-Star Game appearance.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
16	106.1	9	3	2.54	0

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999.

RON COOMER
THIRD BASE
MINNESOTA TWINS



MANGIN/MLB PHOTOS

One of Minnesota's most productive hitters this year, Coomer became just the third Twins batter ever to record 20 homers and 20 stolen bases in a season last year. He's playing in his first Midsummer Classic.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
267	33	76	10	33	.285

TONY FERNANDEZ
THIRD BASE
TORONTO BLUE JAYS



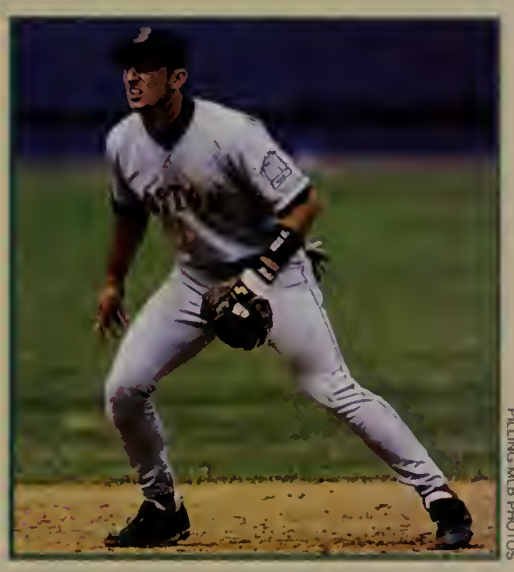
PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

A .285 lifetime hitter, Fernandez has turned AL pitching on its head this season and is flirting with the cherished .400 mark. This marks the infielder's fifth selection to the Midsummer Classic and first since 1992.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
273	44	105	5	56	.385

NOMAR GARCIAPARRA
SHORTSTOP
BOSTON RED SOX



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Despite missing time with an injury early in the season, Garciaparra has collected his share of homers and RBI on his way to a monstrous batting average. This is the shortstop's second Midsummer Classic.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
276	53	101	14	57	.366

SHAWN GREEN
OUTFIELD
TORONTO BLUE JAYS



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Making his first appearance in the All-Star Game, Green has become one of the AL's most offensive outfielders, posting impressive batting numbers across the board. He also flashes fine leather in the outfield.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
295	65	96	23	67	.325

KEN GRIFFEY JR.
OUTFIELD
SEATTLE MARINERS



VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

Griffey completes the decade having made the All-Star team in every year of the '90s. The Majors' leading vote-getter in fan balloting for the fourth year in a row, he's on pace for his third straight 50-HR season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
313	67	99	28	79	.316

ROBERTO HERNANDEZ
PITCHER
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS



VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

One of the top closers in the American League, this flame-throwing right-hander is on pace for his first 40-save season. The two-time All-Star has more saves than any other pitcher born outside of the U.S.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
40	42.1	1	3	3.83	22

AMERICAN LEAGUE

JOHN JAHA
DESIGNATED HITTER
OAKLAND ATHLETICS


ZAGARIS/MLB PHOTOS

Selected to the Midsummer Classic for the first time, Jaha has adapted well to his new surroundings in Oakland. The powerful right-hander has been one of the Athletics' most productive hitters this season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
222	42	65	18	54	.293

DEREK JETER
SHORTSTOP
NEW YORK YANKEES

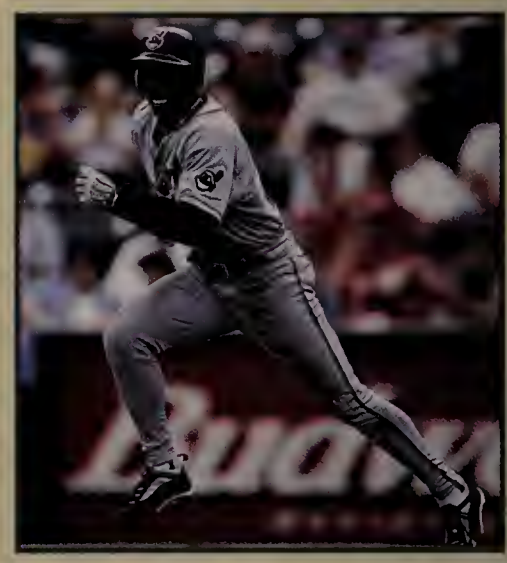

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

After proving himself as one of the most reliable fielding shortstops in the American League during the past three seasons, this two-time All-Star has emerged as one of the league's most explosive hitters in '99.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
309	71	115	14	58	.372

KENNY LOFTON
OUTFIELD
CLEVELAND INDIANS


WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

One of the best leadoff hitters in the Major Leagues, Lofton is primed to shatter his personal best for runs scored (132 in '96). The six-time All-Star also ranks near the top of the league in stolen bases in '99.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
307	77	95	6	25	.309

PEDRO MARTINEZ
PITCHER
BOSTON RED SOX


ZAGRIS/MLB PHOTOS

This Dominican flame thrower has become one of the most dominant pitchers in baseball. The four-time All-Star leads the AL in wins, ERA and strikeouts, and is near the top in innings and complete games.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	124.2	15	2	2.02	0

MIKE MUSSINA
PITCHER
BALTIMORE ORIOLES



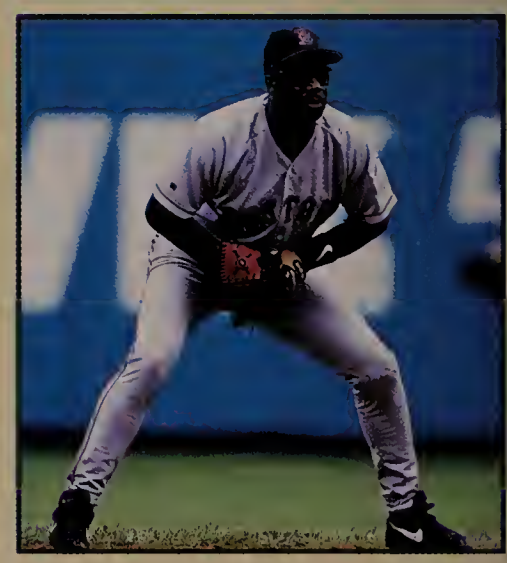
LAYTON/MLB PHOTOS

A five-time Midsummer Classic selection, Mussina will make another run at his first 20-victory season this year. The Orioles ace right-hander came within a hair by winning 19 games in both 1995 and '96.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
18	122	10	4	3.61	0

JOSE OFFERMAN
SECOND BASE
BOSTON RED SOX


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Playing in his second Midsummer Classic, but first as an American Leaguer, the Red Sox second baseman is shooting for his third season with a better-than-.300 batting average in the past four years.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
320	49	91	3	35	.284

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999.

MAGGLIO ORDONEZ
OUTFIELD
CHICAGO WHITE SOX


VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

A first-time All-Star, Ordonez has found a power stroke this year, leading the White Sox in homers and RBI to go along with a batting average well above .300. All this in just his second full big league season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
311	52	104	18	64	.334

RAFAEL PALMEIRO
FIRST BASE
TEXAS RANGERS


WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

One of the most underrated stars in the Majors, Palmeiro is playing in his fourth All-Star Game after another blazing start in 1999. Believe it or not, he has played in more games in the '90s than Cal Ripken Jr.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
292	42	103	20	73	.353

TROY PERCIVAL
PITCHER
ANAHEIM ANGELS

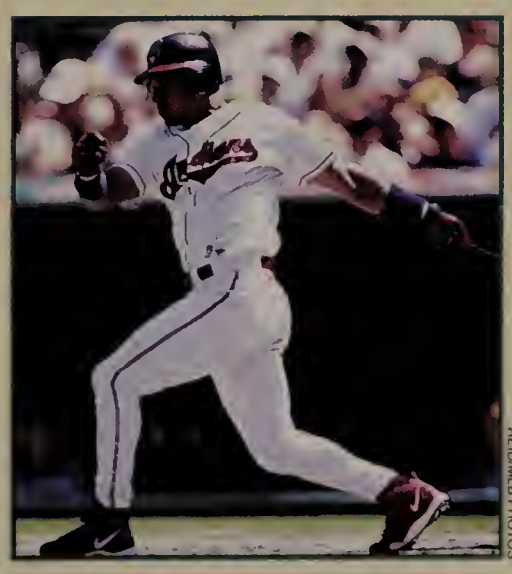

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

A nail-in-the-coffin reliever who brings absolute gas, Percival is poised to top his personal best save total of 42, which he achieved last year. The Angels stopper has made three of the last four All-Star Games.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
33	32	2	2	2.25	22

MANNY RAMIREZ
OUTFIELD
CLEVELAND INDIANS


REID/MLB PHOTOS

One of the hottest hitters in the Major Leagues, Ramirez will take aim at Hack Wilson's big league-record 191 RBI in the second half of the season. He's making his third appearance in an All-Star Game.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
281	65	93	22	88	.331

UMPIRES


DIPACE/MLB PHOTOS

JIM EVANS
HOME PLATE


MLB PHOTOS

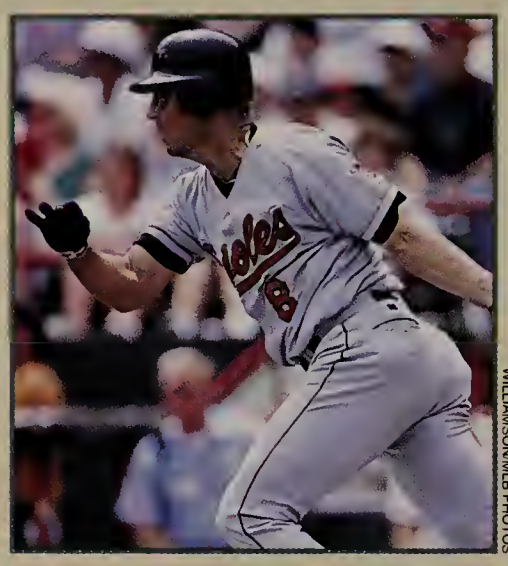
DALE FORD
SECOND BASE


MLB PHOTOS

MARK JOHNSON
LEFT FIELD

AMERICAN LEAGUE

CAL RIPKEN JR.
THIRD BASE
BALTIMORE ORIOLES


WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

In his 18 big league seasons, baseball's Iron Man has been selected to 17 straight Midsummer Classics. After being slowed by an early-season back injury, Ripken has come back to spark the Orioles' offense.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
210	30	65	11	34	.310

MARIANO RIVERA
PITCHER
NEW YORK YANKEES


PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Boasting a stingy ERA and one of the highest save totals in the league this year, Rivera is making his second appearance in the Midsummer Classic. He's on pace to match his career-best 43 saves set in 1997.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
31	31	1	1	1.45	21

IVAN RODRIGUEZ
CATCHER
TEXAS RANGERS


KEE/MLB PHOTOS

One of the best defensive catchers ever to put on a chest protector, the 27-year-old Rodriguez has been an All-Star in each of his first eight full big league seasons. He also holds a .295 career batting average.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
281	48	86	14	48	.306

JOSE ROSADO
PITCHER
KANSAS CITY ROYALS


VESELY/MLB PHOTOS

This left-hander is trying to reach double digits in wins for the first time in his four-year career. The two-time All-Star has held hitters to one of the lowest ERAs of all AL starters through the first half of the season.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
17	105.2	5	6	2.90	0

B.J. SURHOFF
OUTFIELD
BALTIMORE ORIOLES


ROSATO/MLB PHOTOS

This 13-year veteran, enjoying his finest season in the big leagues, is making his first trip to the All-Star Game. The hard-hitting outfielder is among the league leaders in average, homers and RBI this season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
345	54	118	20	69	.342

JIM THOME
FIRST BASE
CLEVELAND INDIANS


ROSATO/MLB PHOTOS

Thome led all American League first basemen in fan balloting this year to earn his third trip to the Midsummer Classic. The lefty slugger is shooting for his fourth-straight season with at least 30 home runs.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
235	45	65	13	46	.277

ROSTER

All statistics are through July 5, 1999.

OMAR VIZQUEL
SHORTSTOP
CLEVELAND INDIANS



MLB PHOTOS

Widely repected as the best fielding short-stop in the American League for the past several years, this six-time Gold Glover is also having a break-out year at the plate. It's his second All-Star Game selection.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
274	50	92	2	35	.336

JOHN WETTELAND
PITCHER
TEXAS RANGERS



WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

This Texas closer is the only active player to record three seasons with more than 40 saves. One of the AL's top game-savers again this season, Wetteland is making his third trip to the Midsummer Classic.

1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
33	34.2	2	2	4.15	25

BERNIE WILLIAMS
OUTFIELD
NEW YORK YANKEES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

Making his third straight trip to the All-Star Game, Williams supplies superb defense and a deadly bat. Last year, he became the first player to win a Gold Glove, batting title and World Series in the same season.

1999 STATS

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
310	63	106	13	51	.342

JEFF ZIMMERMAN
PITCHER
TEXAS RANGERS



WILLIAMSON/MLB PHOTOS

Pitching in only his third pro season and first in the Majors, Zimmerman is making a case to earn AL Rookie of the Year honors in '99. The ERA of this hard-throwing setup man requires requires a microscope to see.

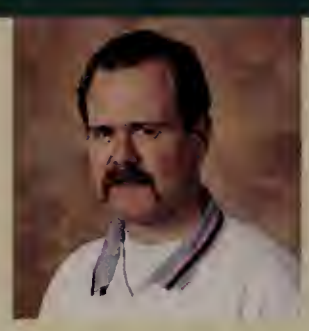
1999 STATS

G	IP	W	L	ERA	SV
32	48	7	0	0.94	1

TRAINERS



STEVE DONOHUE
NEW YORK YANKEES



JIM ROWE
BOSTON RED SOX

HONORARY CAPTAIN



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

CARLTON FISK

In 11 seasons with Boston, Fisk batted .284 with 162 HR and seven All-Star selections. He'll forever be remembered for his homer to win Game 6 of the '75 World Series.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

MANAGER
BRUCE BOCHY
SAN DIEGO PADRES

COACHES
JACK McKEON
CINCINNATI REDS

JIM RIGGLEMAN
CHICAGO CUBS

TRAINERS
GREG LYNN
CINCINNATI REDS

DAVID TUMBAS
CHICAGO CUBS

HONORARY CAPTAIN
ORLANDO CEPEDA

NO.	PLAYER	CLUB	B	T	HT.	WT.	BORN	BIRTHPLACE
43	Andy Ashby	Padres	R	R	6-5	202	7/11/67	Kansas City, MO
5	Jeff Bagwell	Astros	R	R	6-0	195	5/27/68	Boston, MA
33	Jay Bell	Diamondbacks	R	R	6-0	184	12/11/65	Eglin AFB, FL
37	Kent Bottenfield	Cardinals	R	R	6-3	240	11/14/68	Portland, OR
20	Jeromy Burnitz	Brewers	L	R	6-0	205	4/15/69	Westminster, CA
34	Paul Byrd	Phillies	R	R	6-1	185	12/3/70	Louisville, KY
21	Sean Casey	Reds	L	R	6-4	215	7/2/74	Willingsboro, NJ
11	Alex Gonzalez	Marlins	R	R	6-0	170	2/15/77	Cagua, Venezuela
20	Luis Gonzalez	Diamondbacks	L	R	6-2	200	9/2/67	Tampa, FL
27	Vladimir Guerrero	Expos	R	R	6-3	205	2/9/76	Nizao Bani, DR
19	Tony Gwynn	Padres	L	L	5-11	200	5/9/60	Los Angeles, CA
10	Mike Hampton	Astros	R	L	5-10	180	9/9/72	Brooksville, FL
51	Trevor Hoffman	Padres	R	R	6-0	215	10/13/67	Bellflower, CA
51	Randy Johnson	Diamondbacks	R	L	6-10	230	9/10/63	Walnut Creek, CA
33	Brian Jordan	Braves	R	R	6-1	205	3/29/67	Baltimore, MD
21	Jeff Kent	Giants	R	R	6-1	205	3/7/68	Bellflower, CA
11	Barry Larkin	Reds	R	R	6-0	185	4/28/64	Cincinnati, OH
24	Mike Lieberthal	Phillies	R	R	6-0	185	1/18/72	Glendale, CA
42	Jose Lima	Astros	R	R	6-2	205	9/30/72	Santiago, DR
25	Mark McGwire	Cardinals	R	R	6-5	250	10/1/63	Pomona, CA
34	Kevin Millwood	Braves	R	R	6-4	220	12/24/74	Gastonia, NC
31	Robb Nen	Giants	R	R	6-5	215	11/28/69	San Pedro, CA
14	Dave Nilsson	Brewers	L	R	6-3	229	12/14/69	Brisbane, Australia
31	Mike Piazza	Mets	R	R	6-3	215	9/4/68	Norristown, PA
38	Curt Schilling	Phillies	R	R	6-4	230	11/14/66	Anchorage, AK
10	Gary Sheffield	Dodgers	R	R	5-11	205	11/18/68	Tampa, FL
21	Sammy Sosa	Cubs	R	R	6-0	210	11/12/68	San Pedro de Macoris, DR
6	Ed Sprague	Pirates	R	R	6-2	205	7/25/67	Castro Valley, CA
13	Billy Wagner	Astros	L	L	5-11	180	7/25/71	Tannersville, VA
33	Larry Walker	Rockies	L	R	6-3	237	12/1/66	Maple Ridge, BC
9	Matt Williams	Diamondbacks	R	R	6-2	214	11/28/65	Bishop, CA

AMERICAN LEAGUE

MANAGER
JOE TORRE
NEW YORK YANKEES

COACHES
JERRY MANUEL
CHICAGO WHITE SOX

JIMY WILLIAMS
BOSTON RED SOX

TRAINERS
STEVE DONOHUE
NEW YORK YANKEES

JIM ROWE
BOSTON RED SOX

HONORARY CAPTAIN
CARLTON FISK

NO.	PLAYER	CLUB	B	T	HT.	WT.	BORN	BIRTHPLACE
12	Roberto Alomar	Indians	S	R	6-0	185	2/5/68	Ponce, PR
12	Brad Ausmus	Tigers	R	R	5-11	195	4/14/69	New Haven, CT
33	Jose Canseco	Devil Rays	R	R	6-4	240	7/2/64	Havana, Cuba
36	David Cone	Yankees	L	R	6-1	190	1/2/63	Kansas City, MO
8	Ron Coomer	Twins	R	R	5-11	206	11/18/66	Chicago, IL
1	Tony Fernandez	Blue Jays	S	R	6-2	195	6/30/62	San Pedro de Macoris, DR
5	Nomar Garciaparra	Red Sox	R	R	6-0	180	7/23/73	Whittier, CA
15	Shawn Green	Blue Jays	L	L	6-4	200	11/10/72	Des Plaines, IL
24	Ken Griffey Jr.	Mariners	L	L	6-3	205	11/21/69	Donora, PA
39	Roberto Hernandez	Devil Rays	R	R	6-4	250	11/11/64	Santurce, PR
5	John Jaha	Athletics	R	R	6-1	224	5/27/66	Portland, OR
2	Derek Jeter	Yankees	R	R	6-3	195	6/26/74	Pequannock, NJ
7	Kenny Lofton	Indians	L	L	6-0	190	5/31/67	East Chicago, IN
45	Pedro Martinez	Red Sox	R	R	5-11	170	10/25/71	Manoguayabo, DR
35	Mike Mussina	Orioles	S	R	6-2	185	12/8/68	Williamsport, PA
30	Jose Offerman	Red Sox	S	R	6-0	190	11/8/68	San Pedro de Macoris, DR
30	Magglio Ordonez	White Sox	R	R	6-0	200	1/28/74	Caracas, Venezuela
25	Rafael Palmeiro	Rangers	L	L	6-0	190	9/24/64	Havana, Cuba
40	Troy Percival	Angels	R	R	6-3	230	8/9/69	Fontana, CA
24	Manny Ramirez	Indians	R	R	6-0	205	5/30/72	Santo Domingo, DR
8	Cal Ripken Jr.	Orioles	R	R	6-4	220	8/24/60	Havre de Grace, MD
42	Mariano Rivera	Yankees	R	R	6-2	170	11/29/69	Panama City, Panama
7	Ivan Rodriguez	Rangers	R	R	5-9	205	11/30/71	Vega Baja, PR
50	Jose Rosado	Royals	L	L	6-0	185	11/9/74	Jersey City, NJ
17	B.J. Surhoff	Orioles	L	R	6-1	200	8/4/64	Bronx, NY
25	Jim Thome	Indians	L	R	6-4	225	8/27/70	Peoria, IL
13	Omar Vizquel	Indians	S	R	5-9	170	4/24/67	Caracas, Venezuela
35	John Wetteland	Rangers	R	R	6-2	215	8/21/66	San Mateo, CA
51	Bernie Williams	Yankees	S	R	6-2	205	9/13/68	San Juan, PR
59	Jeff Zimmerman	Rangers	R	R	6-1	200	8/9/72	Kelowna, BC

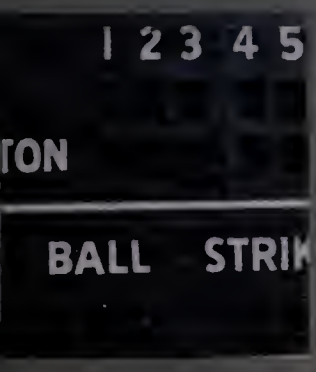




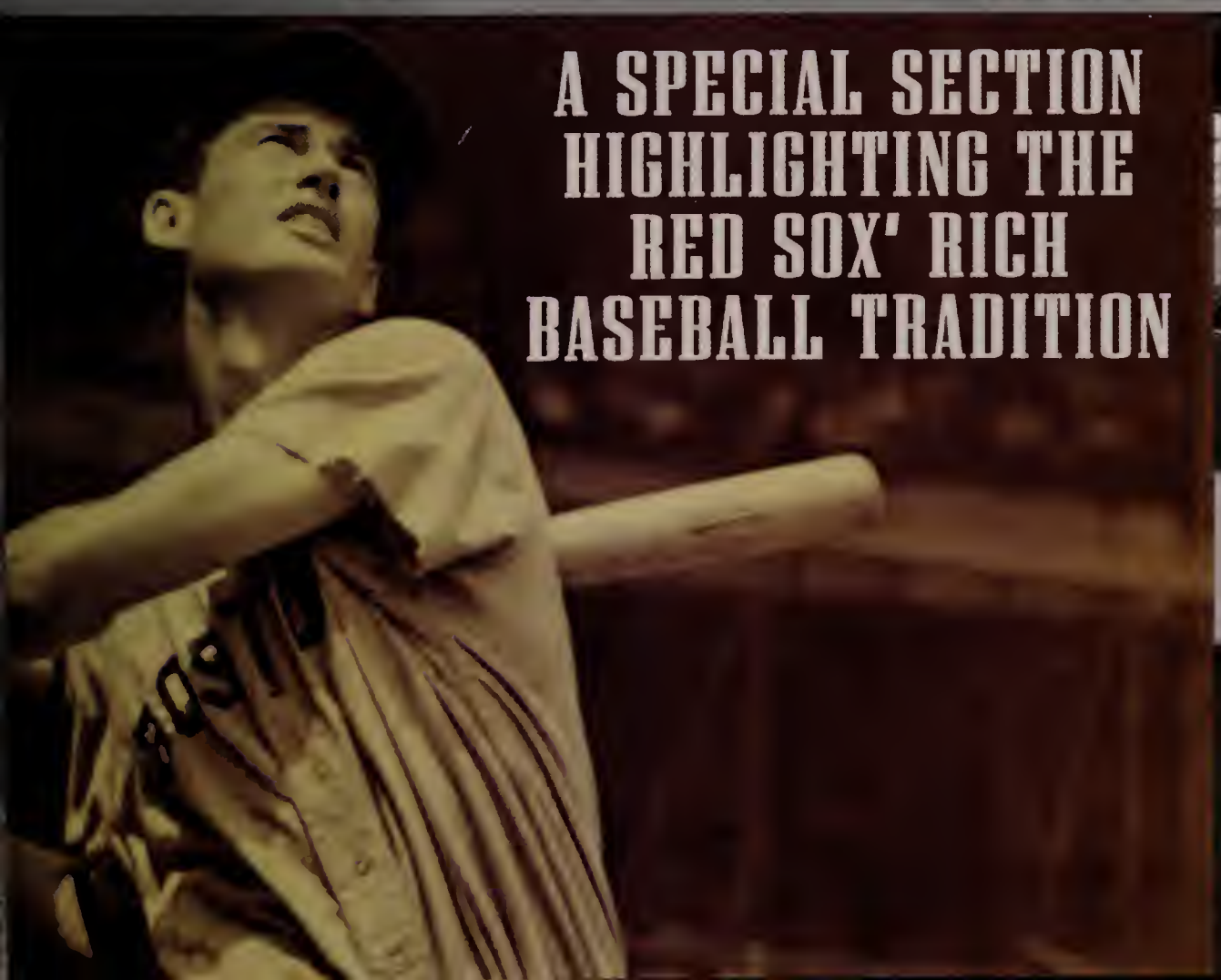


BOSTON RED SOX

BASEBALL IN BOSTON



A SPECIAL SECTION HIGHLIGHTING THE RED SOX' RICH BASEBALL TRADITION







BRIDGING GENERATIONS

THE SPLENDID SPLINTER, YAZ, RICE AND NOMAR – A FANTASTIC FOURSOME WHO DEFINE RED SOX BASEBALL. | BY PETER GAMMONS

NEARLY TWENTY MINUTES AFTER THE 1998 RED SOX season had been ended by the Cleveland Indians, Nomar Garciaparra was standing in front of the stands down the right-field line, waving his hands and a towel to the raucous cheers of the fans. "M-V-P, M-V-P" came the chant, and Nomar raised his hat and waived for a good ten minutes.

"The fans are what make playing for the Red Sox special," Nomar said afterwards. "They are always with us. They believed in us when few did. They care so much for the game, their passion is so much a part of playing here. I didn't plan to do it, but I felt so wonderful about the way they treated us that I just felt it was the right thing to do. I wanted to thank them for a great season."

In many ways, Nomar's impromptu tribute to the fans was reminiscent of a glorious October afternoon in 1983, the day Carl Yastrzemski retired. Yaz came out of the dugout when the game ended and was the first professional athlete to take the Victory Lap. As fan after fan reached out, he jogged down the right-field line, slapping at hands and waving, continuing around by the bullpens, tipping his cap, turning at his familiar left-field corner and finishing in front of the Red Sox dugout. Yaz then stood up on the dugout, raised a bottle of champagne and toasted them. "Thank you," he screamed. "God, thank you."

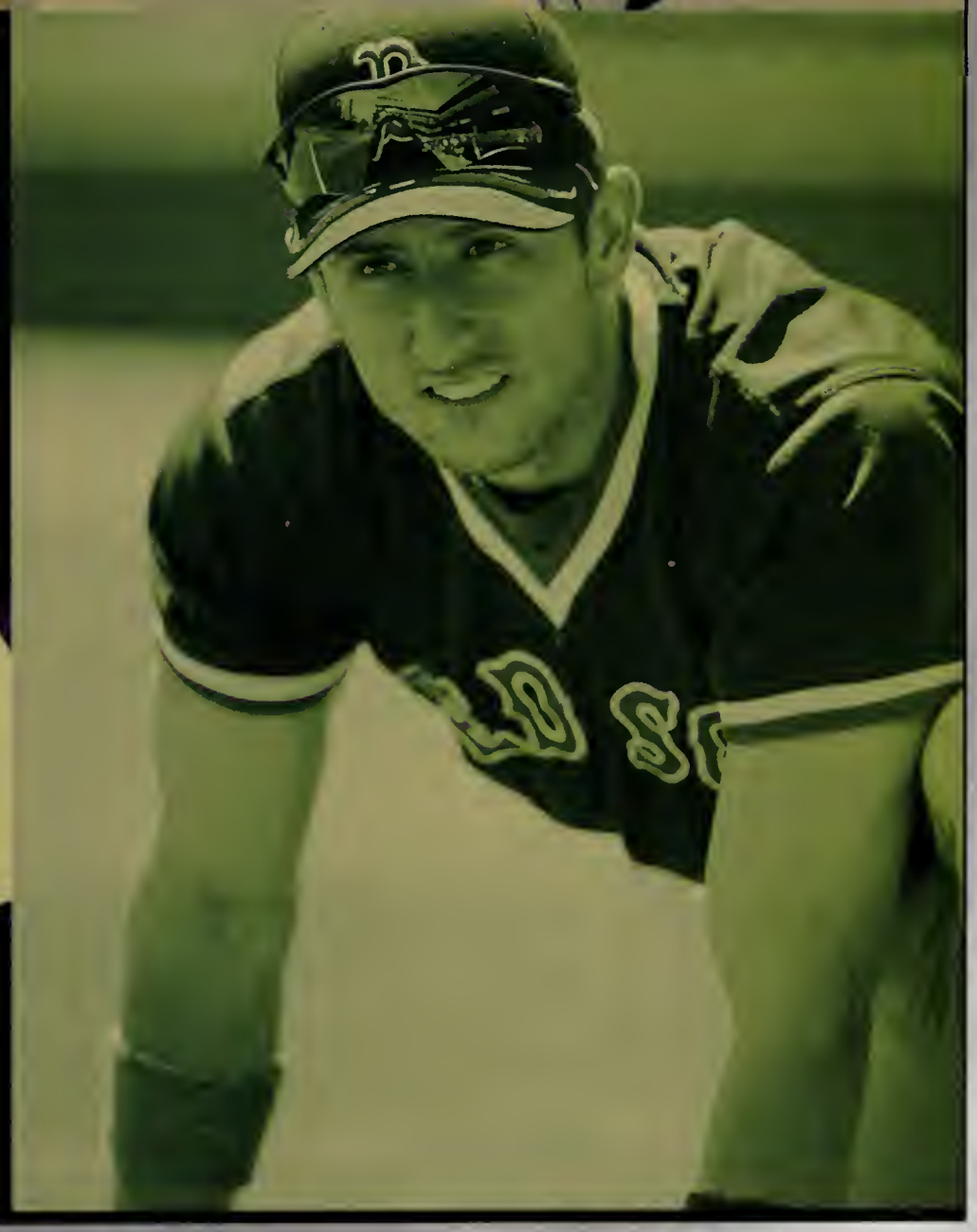
Some ninety minutes after the game, there was a line stretched down Yawkey Way to Boylston Street and around the block. Dressed in his uniform pants and a tee shirt, Yaz went down to the will-call window, had a clubhouse kid plop down a desk, sat down and signed autographs for nearly two hours, until it was dark and time for him to shower and go to a farewell party arranged by friends. "How could anyone leave on better terms?" said Yaz. "It was one of those things that one could never prearrange, or fake, or whatever. My original intention was to run around the park, acknowledge the fans and thank them. Instead, they thanked me in a way that will stick with me all my life. I'm not one of those God-gifted athletes. I'm a workingman son of working people, and here I am, crying like a baby."

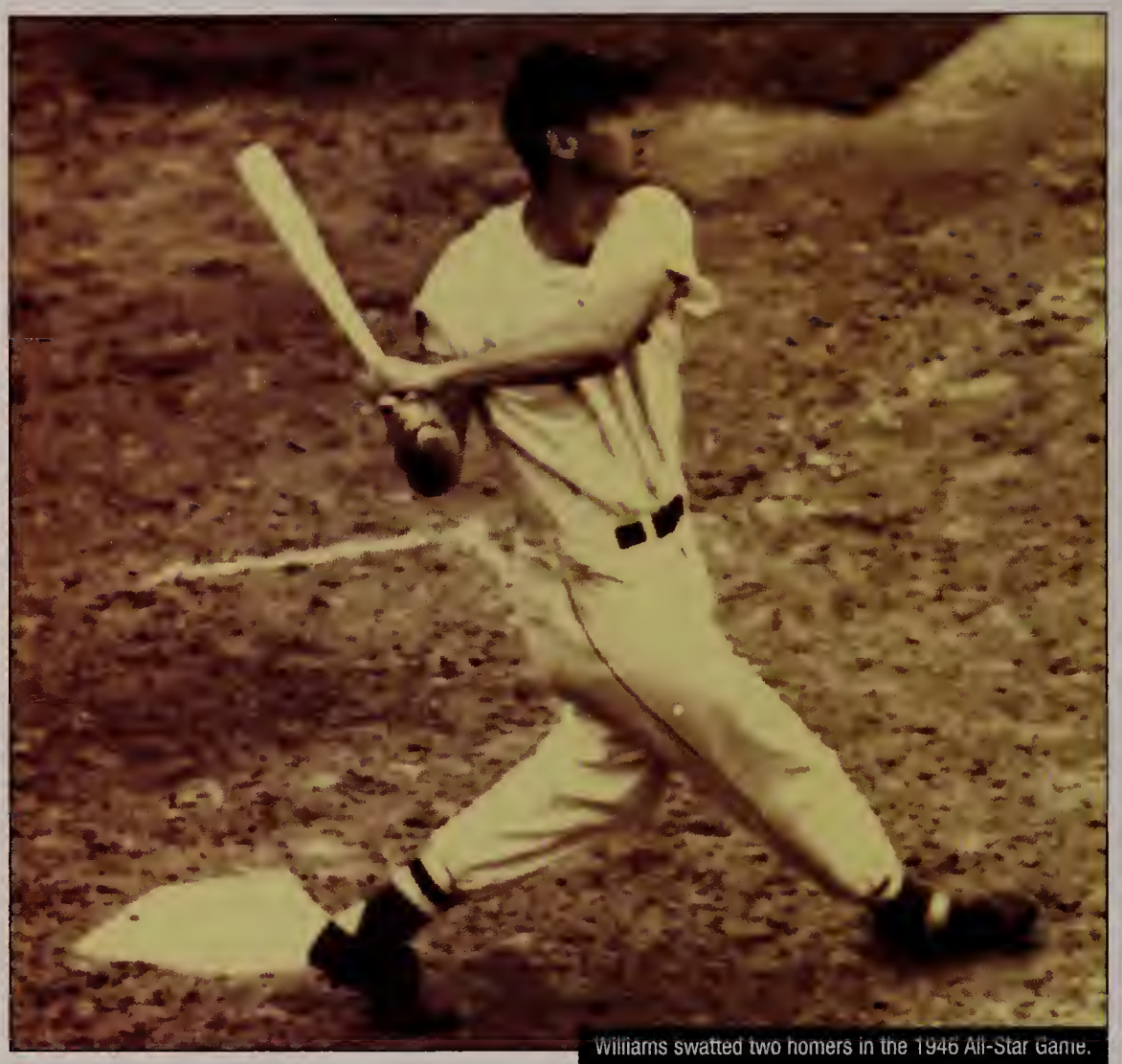
Ted Williams' farewell was the most dramatic, homering off Baltimore's Jack Fisher to end a storied career. He never came out to tip his cap, true to himself, but











Williams swatted two homers in the 1946 All-Star Game.

years later on a Saturday afternoon when he was honored for the good of his beloved Jimmy Fund, Ted finally tipped his cap. "It's something I've always wanted to do. Those fans are the greatest fans in America. They are what make Boston the best baseball town in America."

Jim Rice's career did not end with any emotional farewell, any love-in. Rice was hurt and had undergone surgery and wasn't with the team when his career came to an end in 1989. But, like Ted, when he returned to Fenway Park as a coach in 1995, an Opening Day sellout Fenway crowd rose as he was introduced. "That," says Rice, "told me all I needed to know about Boston. I'm really glad that I never left. There was a time in my career when I seriously thought that I'd like to go play in the National League — first, because I hadn't played there, and second because I'd love to have had a chance to win the MVP in both leagues. But I decided against it when I had the chance. The Red Sox were very good to me. I moved to Boston, I like the city, I like the fans. I'm now glad that I am forever with the Boston Red Sox and their fans."



Boston can certainly be a difficult city in which to play. Williams now says he "regrets" the incident in which he spat at fans. "My battles weren't with the fans," he says. "Mine were more with the media, and when fans got on me, it was just because of some of the things they read about me, most of which weren't true, or half-true."

"I had my moments," adds Yastrzemski, who, for a time in 1971, wore cotton in his ears while in left field to block out the booing. "The fans were frustrated, and because I was the most visible player, I was the target of their booing. After that brief period, the fans were terrific to me."

Even Nomar has tried to block out some of the mass media attention. "I need to be so focused on what I'm doing, I believe it would interfere with my game should I have to deal with everyone's requests for time," he says. "Playing in Boston sometimes requires playing three games — the media game before the actual game, then the actual game, followed by the media game after the game. I do my best, and I hope no one takes it personally, but it's hard to play three games a day. That's what made me marvel at Mo (Vaughn). He could come in and do that every day. I'm different. But that's something I have to deal with, because it's part of playing."

Garciaparra continues to master playing at Fenway the way the other three did during their careers. Of course, Williams, Yastrzemski and Rice all played the Wall. And all played it well.

"In my day, there were all kinds of dents and different metals in it, which meant that there were a lot of different bounces off it," says Williams, referring to the framework of railroad ties and tin that made up the Wall before it was rebuilt in 1976 with fiberglass.

Adds Yaz, a seven-time Gold Glove winner: "What I tried to do was play shallow, charge balls like an infielder, then use the Wall as an 'offensive defensive weapon' (to trick batters and base runners). In reality, the Wall is a big home-field advantage, because the Red Sox players should know what is a double and what is a single, where the opposition should hesitate, which means either being held to singles or being thrown out."

Rice, who followed Yaz in left field, looked to his arm to gain an advantage as a fielder. "I had a pretty strong arm,

"THE BIGGEST REGRET OF MY CAREER IS THAT I COULDN'T HELP WIN A WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FOR MR. (TOM) YAWKEY. WHAT A MAN HE WAS; WHAT A GOOD MAN. HE DESERVED ONE." —TED WILLIAMS

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (2)



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—CARL YASTRZEMSKI, ON HIS FINAL GAME



so I tried to use it off there. I'd go out to left field with Johnny Pesky every day, take balls off the Wall, and practice spinning and firing it back into the infield. I think it's a tough place for a player who hasn't played out there to have a feel for where the Wall is. You see a lot of opposing players turn around thinking a ball is going to hit it, that either lands on the warning track or hits at the base of the fence."

Early in Yastrzemski's career, he used the whole field when batting and took advantage of Fenway as a left-handed hitters ballpark, which it really is because opponents start so many right-handed pitchers and left-handed batters can stay back, take good fastballs to left and pull the breaking ball. For his career, Yaz batted .306 at Fenway, .264 on the road. "Later in my career, I was more of a pull hitter, so it really didn't help me," he says. "I didn't hit many balls into the screen, and except for the ball I hit off (Ron) Guidry in the (1978) playoff game, I didn't hit balls inside the foul pole."

Williams batted .361 at Fenway, but he most certainly didn't take advantage of the ballpark. He refused to go the other way, even pulling line drives through shifts that placed three infielders on the right side of the infield and saw the outfielders pulled way around to right.

Rice says he could never figure out if the Wall helped or hurt him. "I'm told it may have taken some home runs away, because I hit a lot of line drives that didn't get up in time to get into the screen," he says. "I think as a hitter, when I got the balls in on me, I could use the whole field, and I think the room in right and right-center helped me." Rice, in fact, batted .322 at Fenway, .278 on the road, and in his halcyon years of 1977 and '78 hit 15 triples each season. For his career, he hit 35 more homers at home than on the road, but then the Red Sox naturally scored more runs at Fenway in his career than on the road. In Garciaparra's brief but brilliant career, his average and home run totals are higher on the road.



This big swing helped Yaz hit 452 career homers.

UPI/CORBIS BETTMANN (TOP); AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (BOTTOM)

Playing in Boston means having to constantly be reminded that the Red Sox haven't won the World Series since 1918. "The biggest regret of my career is that I couldn't help win a world championship for Mr. (Tom) Yawkey," says Williams, of the late Boston owner. "What a man he was, what a good man. He deserved one. Unfortunately, the one time we got to a World Series in my career, we just couldn't get it done. I think back to how close we were in 1948 (when they lost a one-game playoff to Cleveland for the pennant) and 1949 (when they went into Yankee Stadium up a game with two remaining, and lost both), I'd say that's my greatest disappointment."

What Williams never talks about is

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"THAT TOLD ME ALL I NEEDED TO KNOW ABOUT BOSTON. I'M REALLY GLAD THAT I NEVER LEFT."—JIM RICE, ON OVATION UPON INTRODUCTION AS RED SOX COACH


The hard-hitting Rice was an eight-time All-Star.

that in 1946, while the Dodgers and Cardinals were playing off in the National League, the Red Sox played an exhibition practice game against a collection of American League players. Williams was hit on the wrist, was hurt and had only five hits in the Series.

Yastrzemski's World Series thoughts mirror Williams'. "My greatest disappointment was not winning one for Mr. Yawkey, there's no doubt about it," he says. "And even though he died in 1976, if we'd have beaten the Yankees in that playoff game (in '78) and gone on to win the World Series, it would have been for him." Rice concurs: "If we'd won in 1978 or '86, it would have been Mr. Yawkey's world championship. I never got the chance (to contribute in the Series) in '75." Rice broke his arm on September 22 that season when he was hit by a pitch in Detroit and was done for the year.

The failure to win a World Series was hardly Yastrzemski's fault, for he was a remarkable clutch hitter. In 1967, his September carried the Red Sox to the pennant, and he hit .400, including three home runs, in the World Series against St. Louis. In 1975, against the defending world champion A's, he went 5 for 11 and saved the final game with a diving stop in left field off a ball hit by Reggie Jackson, as the Red Sox eliminated Oakland in three straight for the pennant. He then batted .310 against Cincinnati in the Series. In 1978, Yaz pulled a home run off Guidry to give the Red Sox an early lead in the playoff game against New York, although he is constantly reminded that he popped up on a 90-something mph pitch by Rich Gossage for the final out of the 5-4 Yankee victory.

Last season, Garciaparra had his first shot at taking the Red Sox deep into October. In the Division Series against the Indians, he belted three homers and had 11 RBI, but the Red Sox went down in four games. "I would love to be here when the Red Sox finally win (a World Series)," says

JUST PEEKING



Garciaparra, who turns 26 later this month and is playing in just his third full season, is easily on the right offensive track to eventually join the terrific Williams-Yaz-Rice trinity. Projected over a 2,500 game career that, at an average of 150 games per season, would continue well into 2013, Nomar would fit nicely in Boston's record book.

	Years	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI	AVG
Williams	1939-42, 46-60	2,292	7,706	1,798	2,654	521	1,839	.344
Yastrzemski	1961-83	3,308	11,988	1,816	3,419	452	1,844	.285
Rice	1974-89	2,089	8,225	1,249	2,452	382	1,451	.298
Garciaparra*	1996-2013	2,500	10,647	1,935	3,326	544	1,907	.312

*projection based on career stats through 5/31/99 Source: Elias Sports Bureau Inc.

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Boston's home-town department store salutes baseball's All-Stars and their fans.

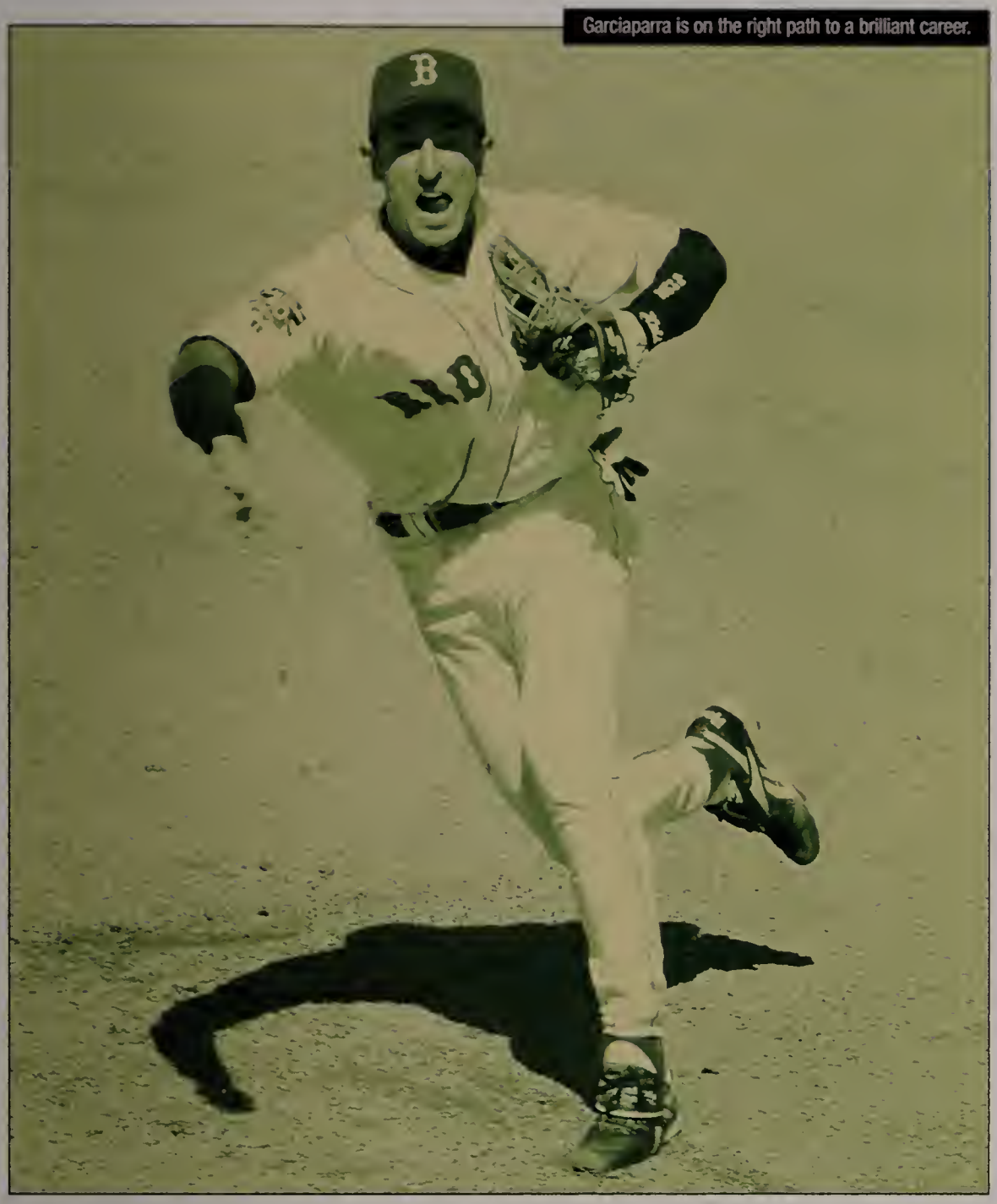


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"I WOULD LOVE TO BE HERE WHEN THE RED SOX FINALLY WIN (A WORLD SERIES). IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE THE EMOTIONS, BUT I WANT TO EXPERIENCE THEM."

—NOMAR GARCIAPARRA

SLAMMIN' SPLINTER

On May 10, Garciaparra became only the 11th player in Major League history to hit two grand slams in one game. Now he needs just two more this season to tie Babe Ruth in the Boston record books for the most bases-loaded blasts in one year. (Ruth smacked four for the Red Sox in 1919.) But Boston's young shortstop has a long, long, long way to go to catch the club's all-time grand slam leader, Ted Williams, who belted 17. Rice and Yaz weren't too shabby in the career grand salami department either, hitting eight and seven, respectively.



GREENWALD PHOTOS (2)

the 25-year-old Garciaparra, now in his third full season with Boston. "It's hard to imagine the emotions, but I want to experience them."

Nomar may be able to experience the All-Star Game at Fenway, something Rice and Yaz did not; Don Schwall, who won 16 games and the AL Rookie of the Year Award in 1961 (also Yaz's rookie year), was Boston's All-Star representative to the second All-Star Game in '61, at Fenway. But Ted had his chance in the 1946 All-Star Game at Fenway and made the most of it, going 4 for 4, including his famous "eephus" home run off Rip Sewell. "I just moved up into the box and tried to meet it on the way down," says Williams, an 18-time All-Star who earned MVP honors for his performance. "That's the way to hit the ball, with a slight uppercut, and I hit it perfectly. But the home run to win the 1941 game was my favorite All-Star memory." (Williams smacked a game-winning three-run blast with two outs in the ninth to give the AL a 7-5 victory.)

Yastrzemski was also selected to 18 All-Star Games and enjoyed some extraordinary moments. Like most everything else for Boston in '67, he had a memorable All-Star Game that season in Anaheim, with three hits to his credit. Then, in 1970, he was named MVP of the game, after rapping four hits. Problem is, that was the game in which Pete Rose crashed into Ray Fosse, which is about all anyone remembers.

As for the Red Sox' current star, Garciaparra says he tends not to think about such things as All-Star Games, even though in '97 he became the first Red Sox rookie since Fred Lynn in 1975 to be selected to the AL squad. "Don't get me wrong — it was a great thrill to be in the clubhouse two years ago with all those great players. But last year, I think the media and fans were more upset that Omar Vizquel was picked and I wasn't. He's a great player. He'd been to the World Series. He deserved to be an All-Star. I'll have other opportunities. Winning is more important. Team things mean more to me.

"Like," Garciaparra adds, "winning a world championship. Doing that in Boston means more to me than playing in an All-Star Game, because this is, ultimately, a team sport." ◆

Peter Gammons has covered baseball for 30 years with the Boston Globe, Sports Illustrated *and ESPN. He is a four-time Sportswriter of the Year Award winner.*

BASEBALL IN
BOSTON

THE WALL

COME INSIDE FOR AN EXCLUSIVE TOUR THROUGH TH

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL WAS REBORN IN THE SHADOW of Fenway Park's Green Monster in the early morning of October 22, 1975. At precisely 12:34 a.m., millions of bleary eyed television viewers across North America fixed their gaze upon the imposing left-field edifice as Carlton Fisk's 11th-inning home run arched above the landmark and struck the upper reaches of the foul pole to conclude one of the greatest World Series games in baseball history.



Not only was the Green Monster the backdrop for this historic moment; it was also the unconventional staging area for perhaps the most dramatic vignette of video footage ever taken of a home run. For it was through a portal cut into the lower reaches of the hand-operated scoreboard that the late NBC-TV director Harry Coyle decided to place a camera during the Series. Legend has it that Coyle's cameraman, frozen in terror at the sight of a rat, left his camera inadvertently fixed on the spot where Fisk began "willing the ball fair" then leaping with joy upon clinching Game 6. Coyle wisely aired this serendipitous shot and thus was made, according to a *TV Guide* 1998 poll, the greatest moment in the history of sports television.

The Green Monster. At first sight it is unforgettable. As the most distinctive landmark in American sports it is a functional relic, an integral participant in many of baseball's most storied events. For seven decades this eccentric barricade has defined both the ambiance of Fenway Park and is proof positive of the adage that architecture is destiny.

Located a mere 310 feet from home plate, the 37-foot high left-field wall is an inviting target for any right-handed batter. Just ask Fisk or Bucky Dent. Or Mel Parnell, who in 1953 became the last Boston left-hander to win 20 games in one season. All Red Sox fans have lived

BY RICHARD JOHNSON | PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICH PILLING



REEN MONSTER — THE MOST RECOGNIZABLE AND REVERED LANDMARK IN BASEBALL.

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with the painful truth that, "the Wall giveth and the Wall taketh away." Hence the birth of the nickname, the "Green Monster." Has any fan ever doubted that, given the opportunity, he or she could sock one over, or at least smack a line drive against its imposing facade?

Bottom: Pregame ritual—hanging team names. Clockwise from right: The Wall's scoreboard operators, Chris Elias (left) and Rich Maloney, work in close quarters, but love the view.





THE BUNKER...IS DIMLY LIT AND POORLY VENTILATED — FRESH AIR SEEPS IN FROM NARROW SLITS IN WHICH THE SCOREBOARD NUMBERS ARE KEPT. IT IS AS HUMBLE AS ANY WORKING SPACE IN BOSTON.

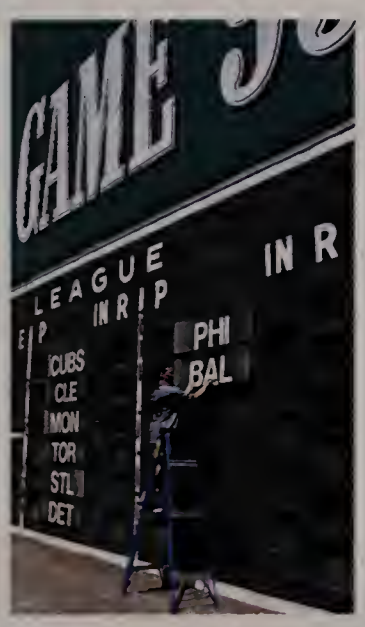




At ground level, the Wall — a framework once constructed of railroad ties and tin and now covered with fiberglass — seems even more mighty than from the grandstand. Its 275-foot length nearly matches its distance from home plate. The only human dimension of this Goliath is the five-foot-by-two-foot door leading into the scoreboard portion of the Wall — a dark submarine-like chamber.

Through this door, every Red Sox left fielder since 1934, as well as hundreds of other Major Leaguers, have ventured to greet the scoreboard operators and to sign their names on the interior concrete of the Wall. Among the more noteworthy inscriptions is a detailed listing of Ted Williams' homers, home and away, for the 1951 season, as well as the signatures of fellow left field legends Carl Yastrzemski and Jim Rice. Other Red Sox greats include Parnell, Tex Hughson, Dave "Boo" Ferriss, Jimmy Piersall and Mike Greenwell.

Numerous stories have taken on the guise of legend, such as the one connecting Williams to the Wall and his love for ice cream. The story goes that between games of a doubleheader during the late '40s, "The Splendid Splinter" exited the park through an opening in the Green Monster and walked to the nearby Pennant Grille on Brookline Avenue. Once there, he sat at a counter stool and ordered an ice cream soda before returning to the ballpark for the nightcap.



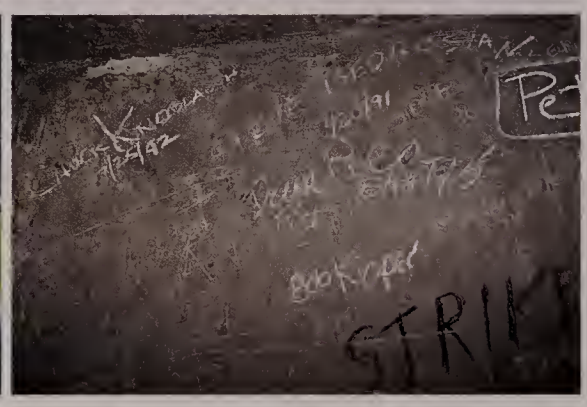
For years, Williams engaged in a running dialogue with scoreboard operator Bill Daley regarding the baseball news of the day. As Daley received regular phone calls from the press box he would relay information to Williams, who was particularly interested in the feats of rival hitters. During Joe DiMaggio's legendary 56-game hitting streak in 1941, Williams would learn of DiMaggio's exploits from Daley before passing them on to Joe's brother, Red Sox center fielder Dominic DiMaggio.

Yastrzemski, Williams' successor and a fellow Hall of Famer, also enjoyed interacting with the scoreboard operators. "Yaz would always find a time to pound the Wall with his fist and yell 'Wake Up!' at a time that most startled you," recalls former scoreboard operator and current Red Sox Vice President Jim Healey. "The sound of anything hitting the metal portion of the Wall would make you jump, and the only other time that seemed to happen was when Yaz crashed into it while making a play."

Widely regarded as the master of the Green Monster carom, Yastrzemski played the Wall to his advantage, often tricking batters into slowing down or stopping altogether. In his autobiography, *Baseball, The Wall and Me*, he states: "Whenever I'm out at Fenway, someone asks me about it and somehow I wind up walking back there, explaining what life in left field was like under that thing. It's sort of like seeing an old friend — or maybe an old enemy that you've come to have a civilized relationship with....The Wall could make you feel as if you had never played baseball before....Whichever batter hit the Wall, it would bounce differently off







Clockwise from top: Countless line drives have dented, but not destroyed, the hand-operated scoreboard; players' inscriptions inside the Wall; the game from "inside."

the rivets — sharply — one way or the other....The Wall did a lot of things, affected a lot of games, played tricks with people's minds."

The caretakers/operators of this remote corner of Fenway Park for the past decade have been Christian Elias and Rich Maloney. The bunker where they work is dimly lit and poorly ventilated — fresh air seeps in from narrow slits in which the scoreboard numbers are kept. It is as humble as any working space in Boston. Not only is there no bathroom, but the Spartan quarters contain few luxuries beyond a 4 1/2 inch black-and-white TV set topped with a radio, an arrangement Elias jokingly calls their "entertainment center."

Yet their unique proximity to the field provides first-rate views — through five 10-inch by 1-1/2 inch eye slits — that approximate those of most left fielders. Despite temperatures that range from near freezing in April to over one hundred degrees in the dog days of summer, both men know that they are the envy of thousands of fans.

"This is one of the great jobs in baseball," says Elias. "In fact, I don't consider it work at all. After years of paying to go to games at Fenway, I feel privileged to be paid to watch the Red Sox."

Elias especially enjoys the informal relationship he shares with the players. He laughs as he recalls the day Ken Griffey Jr. switched the city plates on the scoreboard portion of the Wall during a game.

"We were waiting out a lengthy pitching change, and while I was hunting for the right number to announce the new pitcher, the crowd began applauding. Griffey had shuffled our city plates to new slots indicating bogus games."

Elias says most players stop to pay homage to the Wall, first peeking in, introducing themselves and finally signing their name. During his 12 seasons with the Red Sox, Greenwell was a frequent guest and treated the Wall as his de-facto "office." During pitching changes he'd often enter the space to shoot the breeze or take a drink from the bottles of spring water he kept in a Styrofoam cooler.

At the prompting of phone calls from the press box, the two workers spend much of each game changing the hit, run and pitcher numbers slotted by hand into the metal grid of the 67-year-old scoreboard. Adjoining the numbers on the exterior is a Morse code inscription "TAY, JRY," written in two vertical stripes during the mid-1960s, in honor of longtime owners Thomas Austin Yawkey and Jean R. Yawkey.

Above Elias and Maloney is an additional 19 feet of wall, topped by another 23 feet 4 inches of netting, first installed in 1936 by Yawkey to assuage shop owners on Lansdowne Street whose windows fell victim to Jimmie Foxx's tape-measure blasts.

This, of course, is the same Wall over which such Red Sox sluggers as Conigliaro, Rice, Evans and Garciaparra have socked countless homers, while contributing to occasional pinball-like scores and countless thrilling ballgames. Experienced fans know better than to leave Fenway Park until the final out has been recorded.

No wonder Elias succinctly says, when pondering his decade inside the Green Monster, "I can't imagine not being here." ◆

Richard A. Johnson is curator of The Sports Museum of New England and is co-author of the book Red Sox Century.

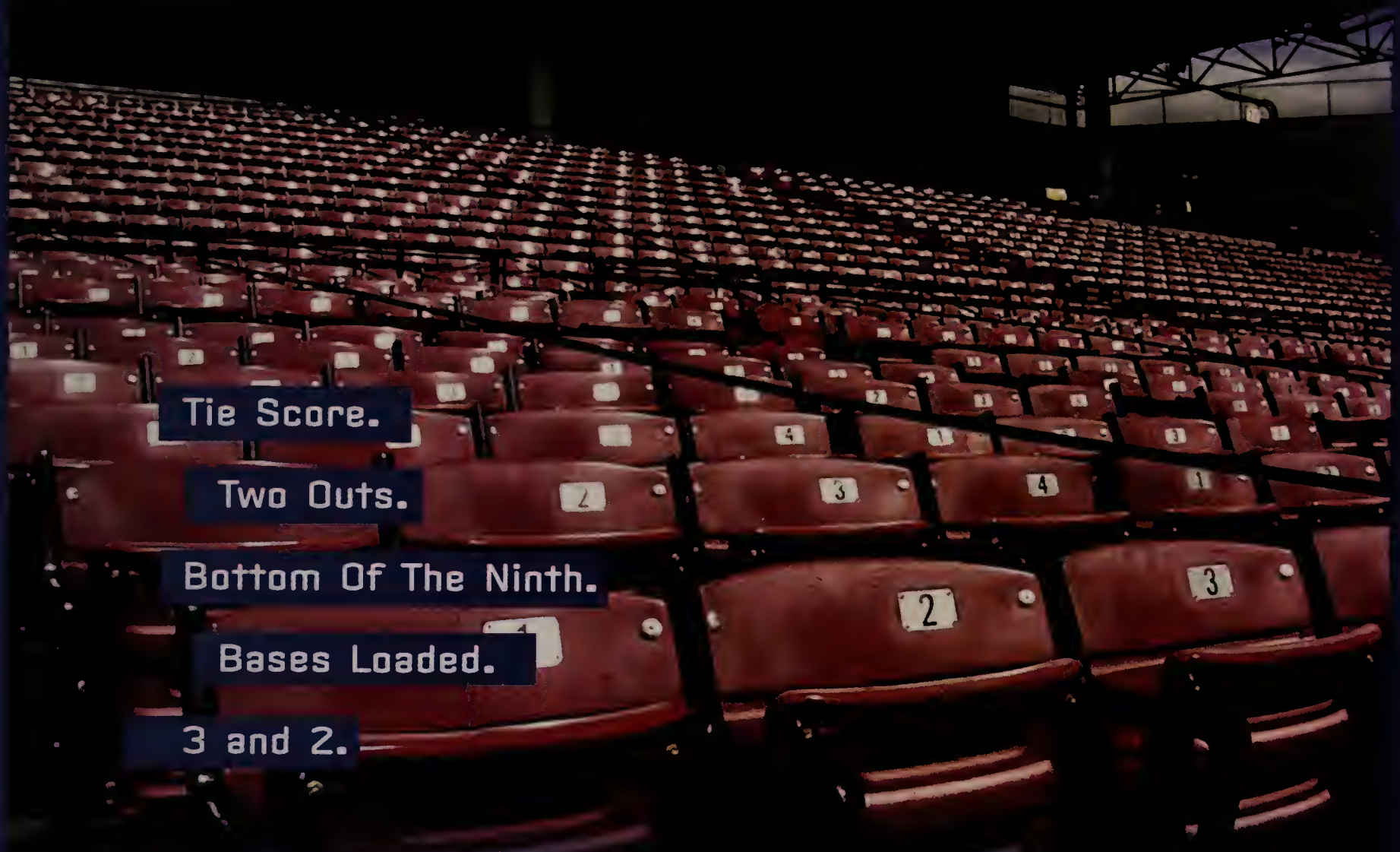
MONSTER FACTS

Age: 67 years old
Dimensions: 37' high, 275' long
Netting: 23' 4" high (added in 1936)
Color: Painted green in 1947, replacing advertisements
Distance down LF line: 310'
Entrance door: 5' high x 2' wide.
Ladder: Only fair-play one in MLB
Morse code: Tom & Jean Yawkey's initials
TV debut: May 12, 1948
Signatures: Every LF since 1934 written inside the Wall



Right: The initials "TAY" and "JRY" in Morse code on the scoreboard.

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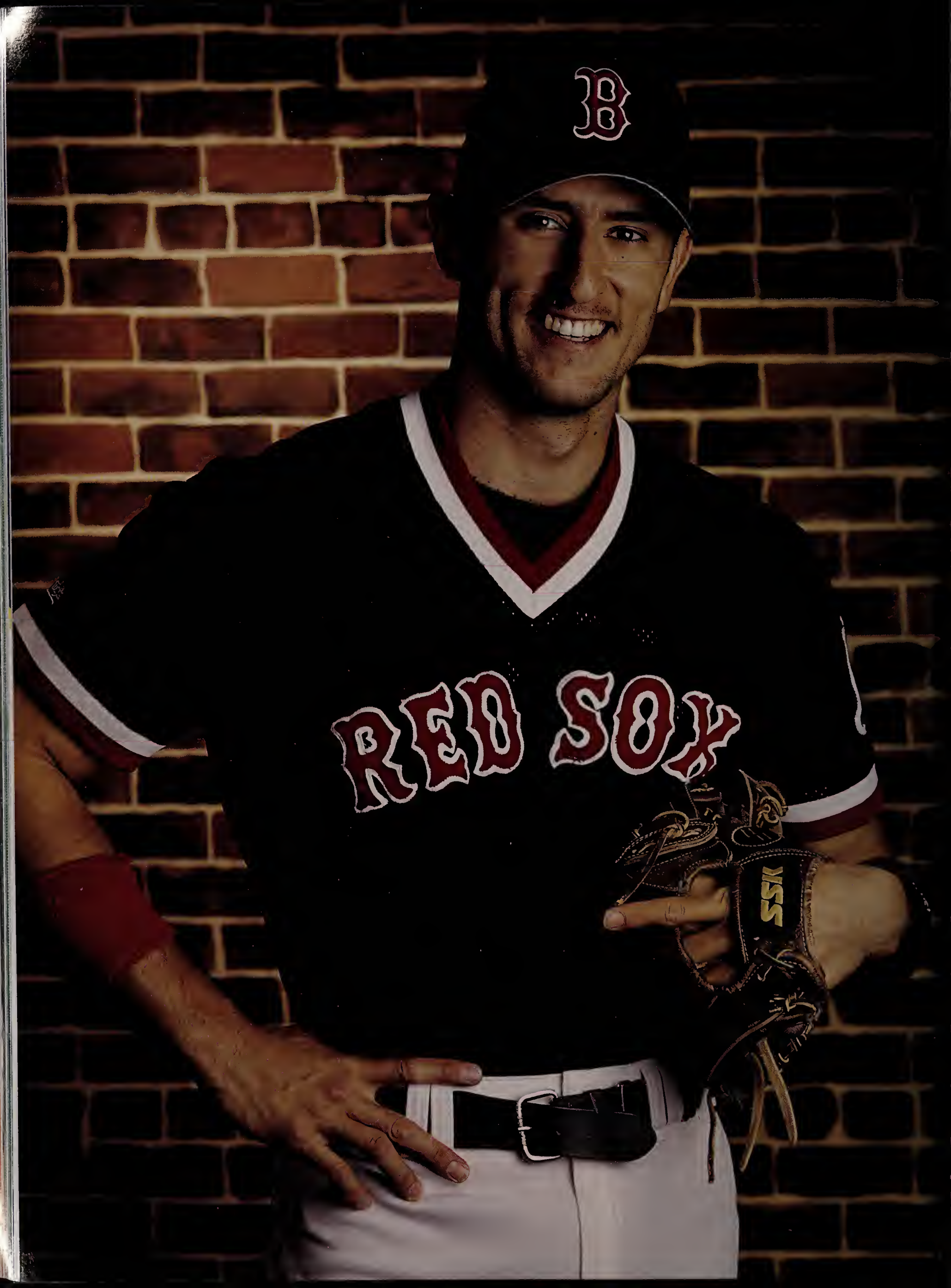
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RED SOX

NOMAR NONPAREIL

BOSTON'S NEW LEADING MAN OPENS UP ABOUT STARDOM, PSYCHOLOGY AND THE PURSUIT OF A WORLD SERIES TITLE.

BY SETH LIVINGSTONE

THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE IS LONG GONE. NO ONE DOES a double take when Nomar Garciaparra scoops a bouncer behind second base, then fires on the run to take away another hit. No one is amazed to see Garciaparra line a game-winning home run...to the opposite field. No one shakes their head when Nomar deflects praise to his teammates or spends an extra hour in the weight room. These things have become the norm for Garciaparra, who arrived in Boston as a slick-fielding skinny kid from Georgia Tech and has emerged as a force in the middle of the Red Sox batting order. Whenever the outstanding shortstops in baseball are discussed, Garciaparra's name is included.

"You're talking about premier shortstops when you mention (Derek) Jeter, (Alex) Rodriguez, (Omar) Vizquel and Garciaparra," says Red Sox manager Jimy Williams. "Most managers would take any one of them. I'm going to take Nomar for what I feel he brings to our team. It's his overall play, not any one thing. He's a winner."

Red Sox GM Dan Duquette wholeheartedly agrees: "Ted Williams says this kid is one of the most-gifted players he's ever seen. He's not only a great player but a great ambassador for the game."

Boston loves Nomar for his approach to the sport as much as for his skills. He's a serious, no-nonsense player with a team-first mentality. "My least favorite part of the game is losing," he says.

He's also a private person. If there's any aspect of the game at which he's still a bit uncomfortable, it's talking about himself, but once he gets going, well...

Garciaparra participated in the 1997 All-Star Game, but it was his success a day earlier that turned heads. The 165-pound shortstop won the Rookie Home Run Derby, thus qualifying to participate in the home run hitting contest with the big boys.

"It's funny, because that was one of the first home run hitting contests I was ever in. I don't know if that exposed or launched me nationally. That All-Star experience was fun. It's a thrill to be considered an All-Star. But I feel that I play with All-Stars every day. The way I look at it, if you get to the Major Leagues you *are* an All-Star.

"As a kid I never really felt somebody was better than the other. I've always believed that one person's success comes because of other people and what they're doing, surrounding him.

PHOTOGRAPH BY WEBB CHAPPELL





Nomar not only makes the routine look easy, he also refuses to give up on the toughest plays, where he exhibits a unique flair for making off-balance throws find their mark.

"When it comes to a team sport and somebody's making 'All-Star,' I have a tough time dealing with it because I don't understand why I should be going to an All-Star Game and my teammates are not coming with me."

The lack of an "All-Star mentality" perhaps explains why Garciaparra did not model his game after any player.

"I really didn't have any heroes that I admired growing up as kid. I just loved the game. I wanted to learn as much as possible about the game that would make me better. I think I admired the game more than anything.

"When I talked to my dad, I wasn't talking about so-and-so. I'd bring him a piece of paper and I'd say, 'Let's draw a field, draw all the players. If a ball is hit to right-center with two outs, men on first and second, where am I supposed to be? How am I supposed to be positioned? Where's the center fielder.' Every position. I didn't always play shortstop, so I had to know everything."

Things are a little different these days.

"I have come to admire a lot more people now. When you're playing against them, you see and appreciate what they do.

"I liked Kirby Puckett an awful lot, the way he handled himself on the field. And Cal Ripken. I had the most respect for Paul Molitor. Then you see all these shortstops. I think they're just unbelievable to watch. You've got Alex, Derek, Omar, and then Rey (Ordonez) in the National League. It's a thrill for me to watch those guys."

Garciaparra also has a special appreciation for Mo Vaughn, whose shoes he now helps fill, both on the field and off, in Boston.

"I admired Mo Vaughn so much. I've always said we're supposed to be role models for kids, but I always thought he was a role model to players.

"We are in the public eye. I love kids and they see what we do. I think we have certain responsibilities to ourselves and to others. I respect myself, I respect my family and I respect the game. Hopefully, it shows up to the public."

Sometimes, making your mark simply comes down to numbers, and on the field Garciaparra's have been terrific in his first two full seasons in the Majors.

MR. CLUTCH IN '98

- 20 game-winning RBI
- 43 RBI with two outs
- .329 BA with runners in scoring position
- 7 for 20 (.350) with bases loaded
- Hitless in two straight games just twice

In 1997, the American League Rookie of the Year led the league in hits (209), established a Major League record with 98 RBI from the leadoff spot and set a Major League record for rookie shortstops with 30 home runs.

Last season, he finished second in AL MVP balloting after raising his average to .323, driving in 122 runs and, with 35 home runs, becoming the fifth player ever to hit 30 or more homers in his first two seasons. But don't recite numbers in Nomar's ear.

"I really don't pay attention to stats. I don't like looking at them, although it seems like in baseball these days they're tattooed everywhere. But, for the most part, I don't know my stats. They're not going to tell me much."

Doesn't that qualify as unusual in this day and age, when much of the business of the game seems predicated on numbers?

"I don't think so. I love the game. I'm not playing to hit .300. So a guy hits .300 and his team loses. Is he going to be happy?"

Consistency has become a Garciaparra trademark. In his first two seasons he's fashioned hitting streaks of 30 (an AL rookie record) and 24 games. He says there's little rhyme or reason to such runs.

"Streaks like that, they happen. It's not something I focus on that day, thinking: 'Oh, I've got to get another hit to keep the streak going.' I think they came about because I was mentally prepared, day in, day out."

That preparation has enabled Nomar to make smooth adjustments at the plate, where he's batted anywhere between the leadoff spot and cleanup since joining Boston.

This season, with Vaughn's departure to Anaheim, Garciaparra is carrying more of a load in the middle of the Red Sox lineup. But his willingness to go after a borderline pitch, even one out of the strike zone, makes him difficult to pitch around.

"Pitch around me? I don't think so. Pitchers want to go after people and I feel they should go right after me. What are they going to do with the bases loaded? They're going to come right after me. It's the game that's going to dictate, really, how it's going to happen."

Garciaparra is a creature of habit, perhaps to an extreme. His batter's box routine, in which he adjusts his helmet, tightens his gloves, then rocks to-and-fro as he levels the bat, is, to say the least, unique. He says it's all in an effort to feel comfortable at the plate, and comfort for Garciaparra comes through repetition and familiarity.

REID (LEFT); KEE (RIGHT)/ALL MLB PHOTOS

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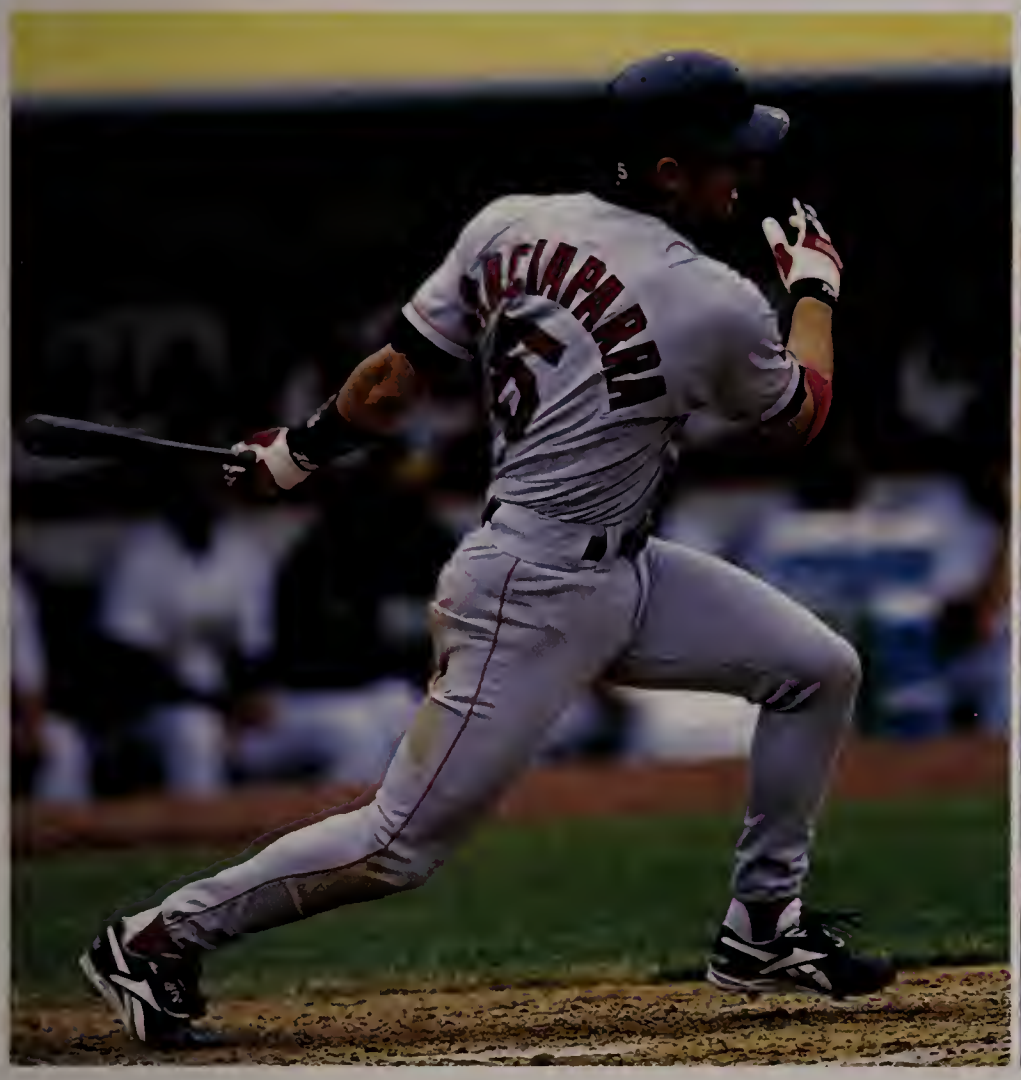
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"I LOVE THE GAME. I'M NOT PLAYING TO HIT .300."



Garciaparra's explosive bat prompted the Red Sox to move him from the leadoff spot to cleanup. It also earned him the Rookie Home Run Derby crown in 1997 (right).

"When I get to the field and I'm preparing myself for the game, it's all about routine. I've got a certain time when I want to be doing things, taking a shower or putting my clothes on. I don't like feeling that I have to rush to put my uniform on to get out there."

All the attention, all the pressure, all the stardom doesn't seem to have affected him.

"I don't think I'm really any different than I was a couple of years ago. It's funny because you get all this money coming your way. Well, I'm not going to go out there and buy different things. I'd rather take care of people, do things for my family. That's a big thrill for me.

"I bought a little condo (in Boston) and it's great. I love the city. During the season, on a day off, I'm sitting at home, watching a movie or something to gather myself and relax. Now that I have my home, I love my place in Boston.

"I bought my parents (Sylvia and Ramon — spell his name backwards and you get Nomar) a home in California. They didn't want to move, so I upgraded them in the same area. To me, that's a little thing, just something to tell them how much I appreciate them. I can never repay my family or my friends for what they've done for me all through my life.

"But nothing has really changed and I don't think it should. At least I hope I haven't changed. I go home and I throw out the trash. I still have my family and friends. All this stuff just gives me an opportunity to do more good."

Of course, Garciaparra's been "doing good" since the day he broke into The Show in late '96.

"My most memorable moment is the first game I ever started. My first hit ended up being a home run in Oakland. That was memorable because my family got to drive up from L.A. to see that game."

He has that ball and several other mementos, including the ball he hit for his 30th home run as a rookie. He hopes, at some point, to adorn his Boston home with an appropriate display. But he says he'd have little interest in a ball such as the one Mark McGwire hit for his 70th home run.

"If I had the 70th (home run) ball, I'd give it to Mark. Things like that are special. It's something he could look back on."

And what would Garciaparra most like to look back on. What would it take to satisfy him?

"A World Series ring, that would do it. Of course, I'd only be satisfied for that year, because the next year I'd be like: 'Alright, I've got to get another,' and after that, 'I've got to get another.' After I'd get one ring, I'd think my other fingers might get ticked off. But if I ever got to 10, I think I'd be done." ◆

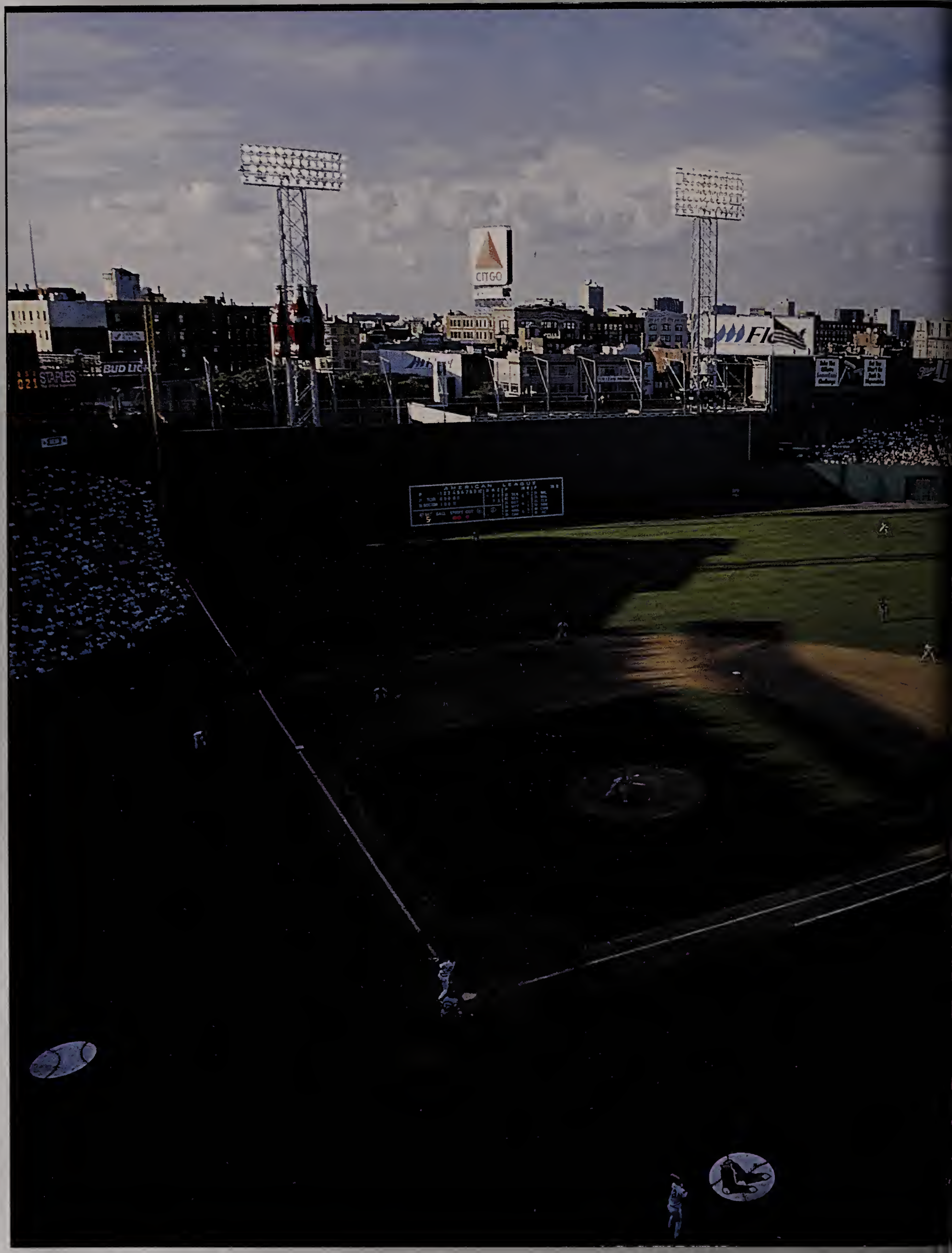
Seth Livingstone covers the Red Sox and baseball for The Patriot (Mass.) Ledger.

IN GOOD COMPANY

Garciaparra is often spoken of in the same breath as Derek Jeter and Alex Rodriguez. Here's a comparison of the '98 offensive output from this dynamic trio of shortstops.

	BA	G	AB	R	H	HR	RBI
Garciaparra	.323	143	604	111	195	35	122
Jeter	.324	149	626	127	203	19	84
Rodriguez	.310	161	686	123	213	42	124

WACHTER (2); REID (ALL STAR)/ALL MLB PHOTOS


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BASEBALL IN BOSTON

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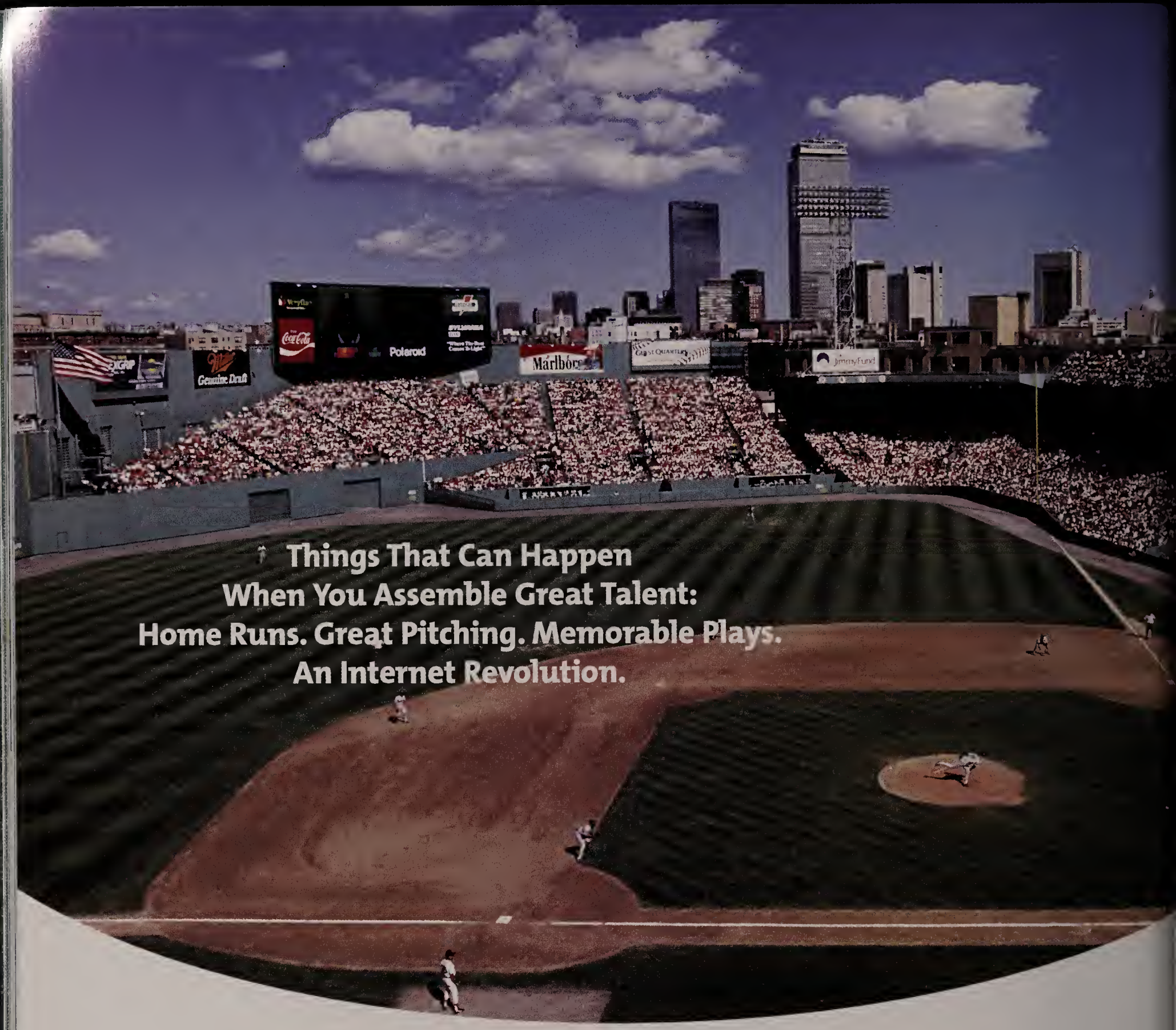
DESPITE ITS REPUTATION AS A HITTERS' HAVEN, FENWAY PARK IS HARDLY A PITCHERS' GRAVEYARD. BY SEAN McADAM

SINCE ITS OPENING IN 1912, IT HAS BEEN THE BEST OF parks and the worst of parks, depending on your perspective. For hitters, Fenway Park has been an inviting field of dreams, with its towering Green Monster target in left, its scant foul territory and its short dimensions down the right-field line. For pitchers, however, Fenway has always been something of a haunted house – a place where routine fly balls become three-run homers, where caroms behave like pinballs, where ERAs seem to inflate at an alarming rate.

Its chief inhabitants, the Red Sox, have mostly used it to their advantage. The list of great hitters who have called Fenway home is impressive. From Babe to Boggs, from Ted (Williams) to Fred (Lynn), from Yaz to Vaughn and Rice to Nomar, the Red Sox have never lacked for offensive stars.

The list of pitching greats, on the other hand, is not nearly so lengthy. Until Jim Lonborg in 1967, the Red Sox had boasted only two 20-game winners in the previous 17 years, and since the inception of the Cy Young Award in 1956, only two Red Sox pitchers – Lonborg and Roger Clemens – have ever won the prestigious honor. (Despite not capturing a Cy, Luis Tiant posted three 20-win seasons and won at least 10 games a year at Fenway between 1972 and '76.)

This relative dearth of pitching excellence may be the



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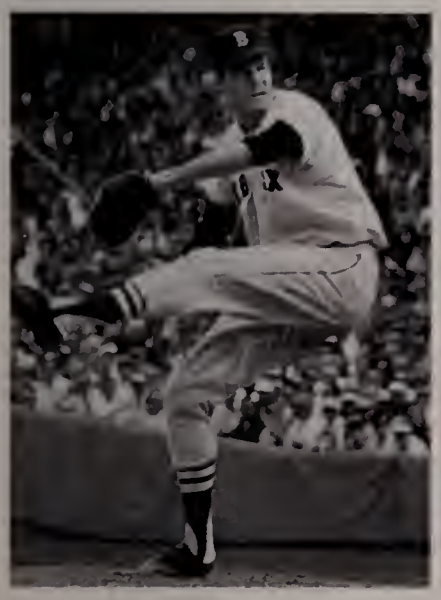
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Clockwise from top left: Jim Lonborg's 22 victories tied for tops in the Majors in 1967; Roger Clemens rocketed to three Cy Young Awards while playing in the shadow of the Wall for 13 seasons; Luis Tiant posted three 20-win seasons for Boston during the mid-1970s.

result of the club trying for too many years to out-muscle its opponents, only to find that the strategy didn't work as well away from home or, for that matter, in the postseason.

More recently, a philosophical shift has taken place, and the Red Sox have placed an emphasis upon their pitching corps, both in player development and at the Major League level. Thus far, the results speak volumes, as the 1998 Red Sox pitching staff compiled the second-best ERA in the AL.

Still, there's no denying the obvious: Fenway is a great place to hit, but for pitchers...not always so great.

Bert Blyleven, who won 287 games over a career that spanned three decades and both leagues, recalls his introduction to Fenway.

"I lasted one-third of an inning," says Blyleven. "It was double, homer, homer, strikeout and a double off the Wall. The amazing thing was, I got a no-decision because we came back to win. The next day, I came out of the bullpen, pitched five innings, gave up five or six runs and got the win!"

Even before baseball's recent home run explosion, balls habitually jumped out of Fenway. The park's miniaturized scale invited a surge in virtually every offensive category, from runs to batting average to extra-base hits.

"Fenway is a lot like Wrigley," says Dennis Eckersley, who won 20 games as a starter with Boston in 1978 and rejoined the Sox for his final season in The Show in '98. "You can't afford to walk a lot of guys. If you're going to give up homers, you better make sure there's no one on base."

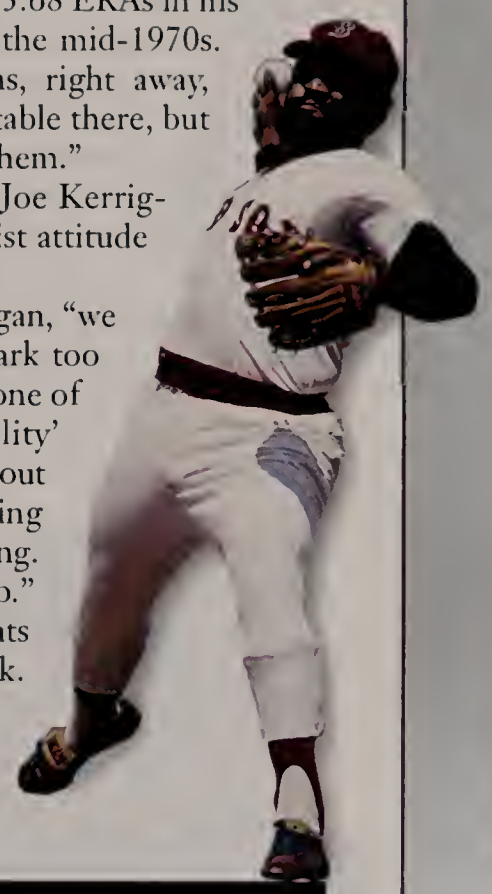
In dread, pitchers sometimes work themselves into such a state of angst that they are defeated even before they take the mound. They're battling the ballpark, the opposing hitters and their own self-doubt — all at once.

"It's a mind thing," says Hall of Famer Ferguson Jenkins, who posted respectable 3.27 and 3.68 ERAs in his two seasons as a Red Sox hurler in the mid-1970s. "If you think about the dimensions, right away, you're defeated. I always felt comfortable there, but I know some guys who let it get to them."

Current Red Sox pitching coach Joe Kerrigan works hard to prevent this defeatist attitude from seeping into his staff's heads.

"To tell you the truth," says Kerrigan, "we really don't like to talk about the park too much with our pitchers. It becomes one of those 'perception becomes reality' things. If they're thinking a lot about the park, then they're not thinking about the things they should be doing. It's almost a non-subject with our club."

Red Sox closer Tom Gordon treats Fenway like any other ballpark. "When I first saw Fenway," he says, "I was kind of overwhelmed, (but) it comes down to making your pitches, no matter what the ballpark is like."



A DIFFERENT BREED



Wakefield

Knuckleballers are, indeed, a different breed of pitcher — from their peculiar grip on the baseball to their effortless motion, to their radar readings that average 20-mph slower than non-knucklers. Tim Wakefield, who's averaged 15 wins a year with Boston over the last four seasons, is a member of this exclusive club.

Unlike many pitchers who recoil in horror upon discovering that the wind is blowing out when they're scheduled to pitch, Wakefield welcomes those conditions.

"There's more resistance meeting the ball, and that entices more movement." explains the seven-year big league veteran.

Conversely, when the wind blows in, it adversely affects him.

"If the wind is blowing at my back, I know the ball isn't going to break much."

Without the unpredictable dips and turns, a flat knuckleball is an inviting, straight pitch delivered at a speed that most Little Leaguers can handle. Under such conditions, Wakefield makes whatever adjustments he can, such as aiming the knuckler low.

While he has adapted to Fenway and its unpredictable weather patterns, he would prefer a more controlled environment. For a knuckleballer, domed stadiums pump in enough air to turn the parks into compression chambers. In Fenway, however, Wakefield's success is often blowin' in the wind.

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (LONBORG); ROSATO/MLB PHOTOS (CLEMENS); PLUNKETT/MLB PHOTOS (TIANT, WAKEFIELD)

Kerrigan instructs his pitchers to remain focused on two concepts: demonstrating sound inside command to right-handed hitters and a strong changeup to lefties. "That way," he says, "you can pitch to the biggest part of the park."

Indeed, its reputation to the contrary, Fenway has its share of open spaces in the outfield. While the Wall is just 310 feet down the line, and the right-field foul pole sits a mere 302 feet away, straightaway right field measures between 370-380 feet. The triangle — so named for a patch of dirt just to the left of the home bullpen and directly below the center field bleachers — is 420 feet from home plate.

"There are a lot of unique nooks and crannies," says Eckersley. "A guy hits a ball 410 feet and it's caught in the triangle; another hits one 310 down the line (in right) and it's in the seats."

By backing right-handers up with a succession of inside pitches, pitchers can disrupt any plans hitters have of crowding the plate and extending their arms in aim for the Wall. Once batters are sufficiently deep in the box, pitchers are free to work the outside corner, knowing that even the hardest hit balls are likely to travel to right-center and remain in play.

"No question about it, the first priority to be successful in Fenway is to pitch inside," says two-time Cy Young Award-winner Bret Saberhagen. "You don't want guys diving out, taking big cuts."

Add power pitching to the mix and Clemens comes immediately to mind. From 1984 through '96, The Rocket owned an impressive 95-55 record at Fenway, almost identical to his 97-56 mark on the road. Though his home ERA was slightly higher (3.19 to 2.92), he notched more strikeouts at Fenway (1,332 to 1,258). According to Eckersley, strikeout pitchers like Clemens and current Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez, have the most success pitching in Boston because they don't let batters put the ball in play.



Dennis Eckersley (left) approached pitching at Fenway with a "no-free pass" mentality. Meanwhile, the "Spaceman," Bill Lee, won 17 games each season between 1973-75.

"I knew I had to pitch inside, even though the Wall was staring me down," says Clemens. Downplaying its impact, he adds, "You just hear talk about how it helped keep balls in that would have been outs in other ballparks."

Says Eckersley: "When I first came up, you were afraid of any right-handed hitter (in Fenway), because anyone could hit it off or over the Wall. But the longer I was there, I learned that left-handed hitters were the ones who took the most advantage of the park."

To combat that, pitchers will fire off-speed stuff to disrupt a hitter's timing and make it more difficult to slap pitches to the opposite, and more accessible, field.

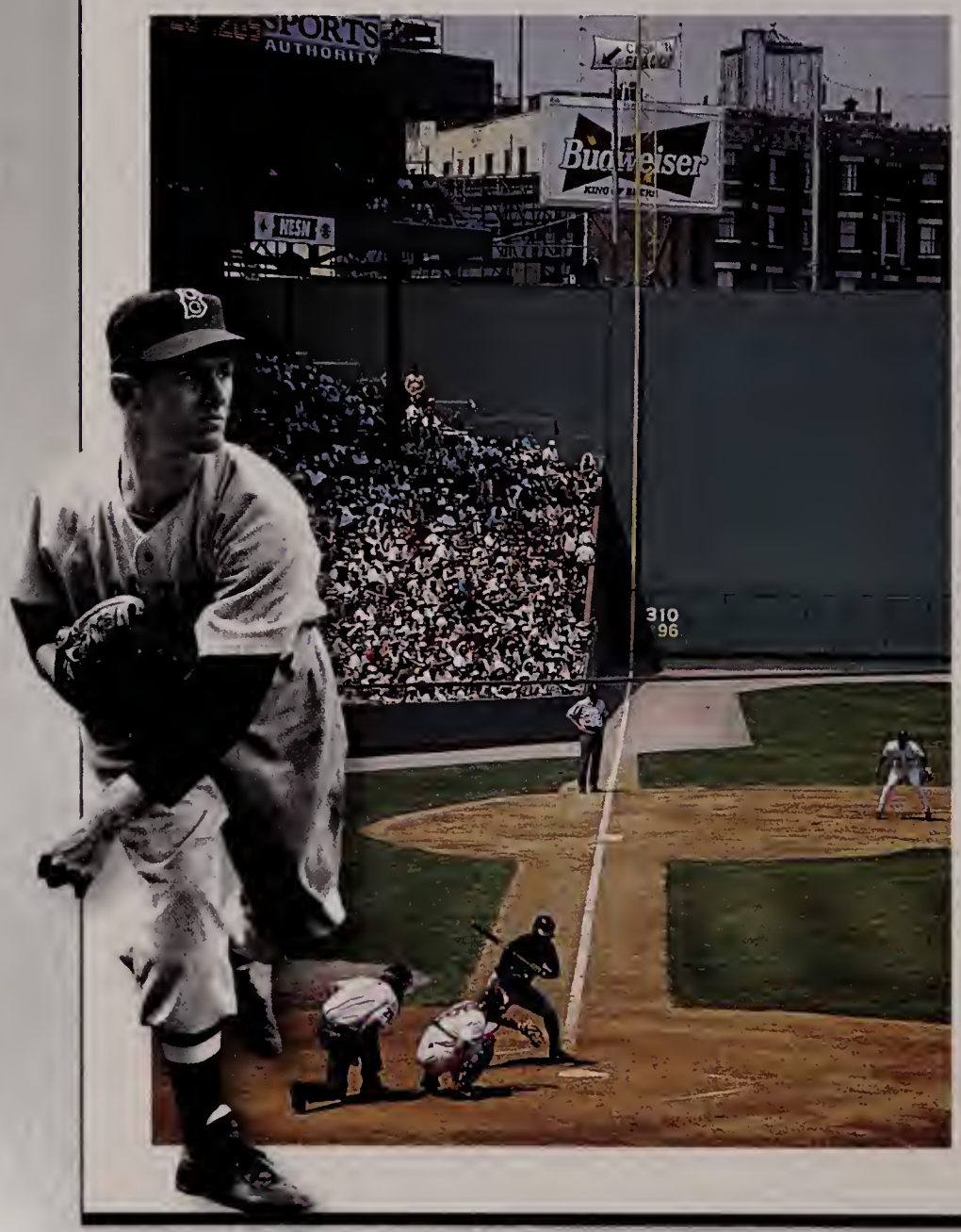
Fenway has its hazards, concedes Martinez. Most obviously, there's the Wall. Fly balls that would otherwise settle into an outfielder's glove instead scrape the Green Monster on their descent and get turned into doubles.

But there are strategies to compensate, and Martinez looks for opposing hitters who appear overeager to use an uppercut swing to take aim at Fenway's 37-foot-high Wall. For these hitters, he is happy to give them what they want.

"If you try to get under a fastball, most of the time you're going to swing-and-miss or pop it up," he says, adding that the key for pitchers is to remain mentally strong.

"I don't remember one homer off me in Fenway that wouldn't have gone out everyplace else. You're going to give up homers. But there's no crying in baseball. I like the challenge of pitching there."

More and more pitchers are taking Martinez's approach. In fact, there's an emerging school of thought that suggests that Fenway isn't such a bad pitcher's park after all. And their theory is partly buffeted by statistics.



You think the Wall intimidated Mel Parnell? The unflappable lefty hurler notched 25 wins in 1949 and posted 109 victories between 1948 and '53. Overall, 71 of his 123 career wins came at Fenway.

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (LEE, PARNELL), PELLINI/MLB PHOTOS (ECKERSLEY), REID/MLB PHOTOS (FENWAY)



"IT'S A MIND THING. IF YOU THINK ABOUT THE DIMENSIONS, RIGHT AWAY, YOU'RE DEFEATED."

—HALL OF FAMER FERGUSON JENKINS

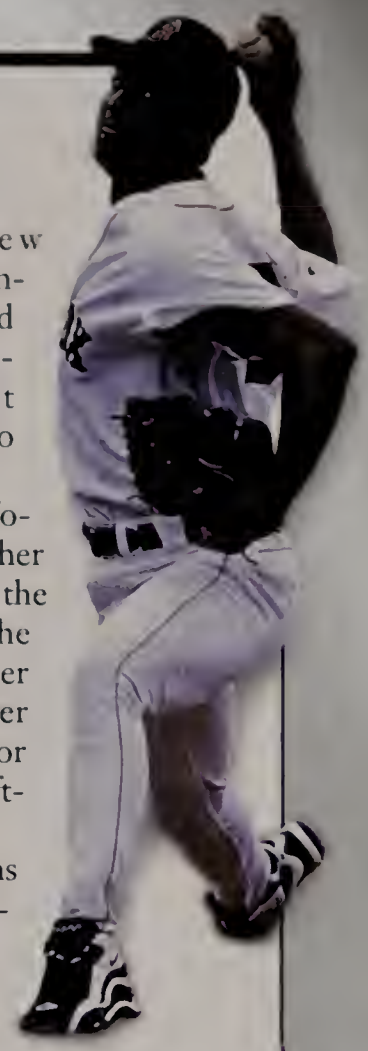
Over the last three seasons, the number of homers hit in Fenway was three percent lower than the Red Sox and their opponents hit at the other 13 AL ballparks (and the requisite crossover NL parks during Interleague Play).

Batting average and runs scored, while up five percent using the same comparisons, were not increased as much as might be expected, and certainly not to the degree that they were in the 1970s.

Many believe Fenway's transformation began in 1989 after the team had constructed its 600 Club, which offers club-level seating for fans behind home plate, but also changed the dynamics and wind patterns in Fenway.

At first, the notion that balls weren't carrying as they once did — first noted by five-time batting champ Wade Boggs — was dismissed as excuse-making on the part of hitters.

But with the passage of time, the theory has gained acceptance. One engineer at MIT went so far as to construct a miniature version of Fenway to prove his point that the ballpark's new swirling and unpredictable wind currents did, indeed, make it more difficult to hit home runs.



Kerrigan focuses on Mother Nature for two other pitching advantages: the shadows that blanket the area in front of the mound for the first few innings of summer night games (the result of Fenway's one-tier structure); and the murderous background for hitters in day games, particularly when a left-hander is on the mound.

For decades, Fenway's cozy dimensions meant trouble for lefties. Right-handed hitters salivated at the chance to face a southpaw. But Bill Lee, ever one to defy convention and logic, won 51 games for Boston over a three-season span (1973-75), making him one of the few successful lefties in Red Sox history. Not since Mel Parnell, who won 109 games between 1948-53, had the Sox had such a consistent winner from the left side.

For Lee, the key to success was simple. "Throw strikes, keep the ball down, don't alibi and hustle," says the hurler affectionately known during his career as the "Spaceman."

"If you're not a fly-ball pitcher, you can win there. And I wasn't a fly-ball pitcher. I played the park to my advantage."

Though primarily a finesse pitcher, Lee made sure to throw hard when he threw inside to right-handed hitters. To do otherwise was to invite trouble.

Then there's the matter of the fabled Green Monster, which might help some fly balls become homers, but is capable of turning back line-drive bullets into long singles.

The Wall giveth, and the Wall taketh away.

"You're always going to have pitchers who complain about the Wall," Kerrigan acknowledges. "It's the nature of pitchers, they love to complain."

The recent explosion of new ballparks — almost all of which are hitter-friendly — has also put Fenway into context. Pitted against launching pads like Oriole Park at Camden Yards in Baltimore or Coors Field in Denver, Fenway seems positively roomy. Still, Fenway is never going to be confused with Yosemite.

"You have to know what you're doing there," warns Jenkins. "You just can't go out and throw the ball up there and expect to get away with it. You need to have a plan, or you could get burned."

But pitchers are an intensely proud group of competitors, always eager to test themselves, even in the deceptively cozy confines of Fenway Park.

"I like the challenge. I'll take it," proclaims Martinez. "And if others can pitch well there, so can I." ◆

Sean McAdam covers the Red Sox for the Providence Journal-Bulletin.



The current Wall-defying Red Sox hurlers — ace Pedro Martinez (top right) and closer Tom Gordon — take advantage of their flaming fastballs and pinpoint control to tame hitters at Fenway.

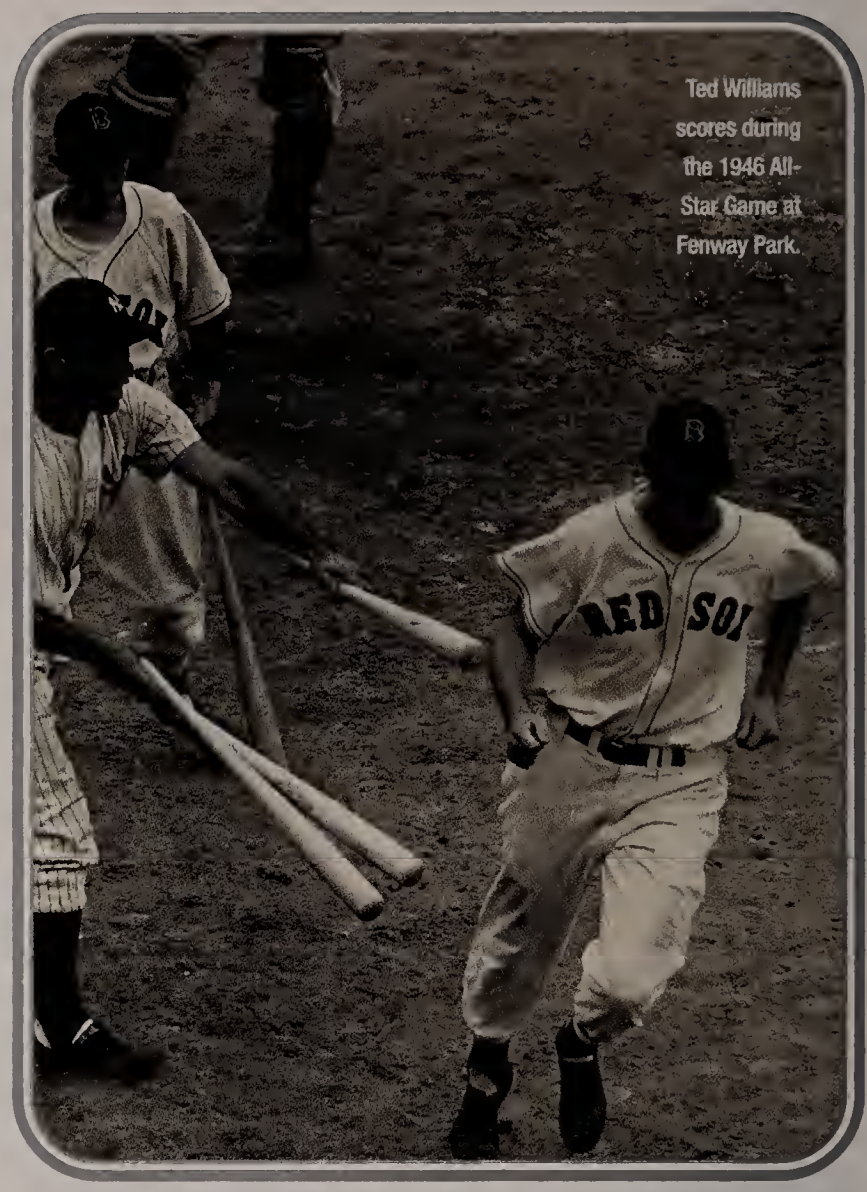
MLB PHOTOS (JEWPARK); RESATO/MLB PHOTOS (GORDON MARTINEZ)

BASEBALL IN BOSTON

BEANTOWN BALL

HOW FITTING THAT THE 70TH AND FINAL ALL-STAR GAME OF THE 20TH CENTURY TAKES PLACE IN BOSTON, WHERE BASEBALL TRADITION IS RIVALED BY FEW CITIES AND WHERE THE RED SOX HAVE HELD SWAY SINCE 1901. TAKE A TRIP THROUGH THE ILLUSTRIOUS HISTORY OF BOSTON BASEBALL.

BY CHAZ SCOGGINS



Ted Williams scores during the 1946 All-Star Game at Fenway Park.



Rice

Out of the Monster's Shadow

For 57 seasons, from 1940 to 1996, Fenway Park's left field was patrolled almost exclusively by four players: Ted Williams, Carl Yastrzemski, Jim Rice and Mike Greenwell. (Williams played right field as a rookie in 1939.) Five of the eight seasons that someone else played regularly in left field were the years Williams was serving the nation as a Marine fighter pilot in two wars.

Over a 49-year span, these four combined to hit .300 or better 31 times, slug 30 or more homers 14 times, drive in 100 or more runs 21 times, win nine batting crowns, eight home run championships, six RBI titles, three Triple Crowns and four Most Valuable Player Awards.

Trivia: Who played left field before Williams? Joe Vosmik, who played for the Sox in 1938 and '39, and batted .307 over a 13-year career.

Midsummer Fun

Three All-Star Games have been played in Boston prior to today — two at Fenway and one at Braves Field. Here's a recap of those contests.

1936 The fourth All-Star Game was played at Braves Field. The National League won for the first time, nicking Lefty Grove for two runs in the second and Schoolboy Rowe for two more in the fifth before the AL rallied for three runs in the seventh with the aid of a Lou Gehrig home run. The NL held on to win, 4-3.

1946 Fenway Park hosted the 13th All-Star Game in which the AL, led by the Red Sox' Ted Williams, routed the NL, 12-0. Bob Feller, Hal Newhouser and Jack Kramer allowed just three hits, and Williams belted a pair of homers, one a three-run shot off Rip Sewell's famous "eephus" pitch — a high, arcing changeup that no one had ever hit for a home run.

1961 After Rocky Colavito smacked a homer in the first inning to put the AL up 1-0, the Junior Circuit did not score again. Jim Bunning and Boston's Don Schwall held the NL scoreless until the sixth when Bill White singled home Eddie Mathews to tie the game. It remained 1-1 through nine, when rain forced the game to be called.

Chaz Scoggins, currently vice president of the BBWAA, has covered the Red Sox for 27 years. He writes for the Lowell (Mass.) Sun.

UPVCORBIS-BETTMANN (WILLIAMS, 1918 TEAM, YOUNG, ROYAL ROOTERS); NBL/MLB PHOTOS (RUTH); PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (RICE, EVANS)

The 1918 Boston Red Sox



No Pox on These Sox

Take a glance at the best Red Sox teams of all time:

1912-18 The Red Sox played .609 ball during this period, winning four pennants and four World Series (1912, '15, '16 and '18). The 1912 champions won a club-record 105 games. LHP Babe Ruth, OF Tris Speaker and OF Harry Hooper all went to the Hall of Fame. "Smoky Joe" Wood led the AL with a 34-5 record in 1912, and Ruth and Carl Mays were each 20-game winners twice. Ruth led the AL in home runs with 11 in 1918.

1946-51 The Red Sox compiled a .605 winning percentage in this stretch and won one pennant, in 1946. The team lost a one-game playoff to Cleveland for the pennant in 1948 and a showdown with the Yankees on the final day of the '49 campaign. The 1950 club had eight .300 hitters in the lineup, and scored 1,027 runs. OF Ted Williams and 2B Bobby Doerr went to the Hall of Fame. Williams won the league's MVP in 1946 and '49 and the Triple Crown in '47 (.343-32-114). Walt Dropo was named AL Rookie of the Year in '50.

1975-79 The arrival of rookies Fred Lynn and Jim Rice in 1975 helped the Sox win their first pennant since the '67 "Impossible Dream" season. The club averaged 96 wins between 1977-79, but lost a one-game playoff to the Yankees in '78. OF Carl Yastrzemski is in the Hall of Fame, and C Carlton Fisk, OF Rice, and RHP Luis Tiant are eligible. Lynn was the AL MVP and Rookie of the Year in '75, and Rice was named the league MVP in '78.

1986-90 Led by RHP Roger Clemens, 3B Wade Boggs and RF Dwight Evans, the Red Sox won three AL East titles and one pennant (1986). In '86, Clemens won the AL MVP and Cy Young Awards and Boggs won his second of four straight batting titles, with a .357 average. Boston also won the AL East title in 1988 and '90. Clemens posted two more 20-win seasons in this stretch and won another Cy Young in '87.

Red Sox Timeline

1901 Part of newly formed eight-team American League; finish 2nd with 79-57 record.

Oct. 1903 Win first modern World Series, defeating Pirates 5 games to 3.

May 5, 1904 Cy Young throws first perfect game of 20th century.

1904 Win American League; NL champs NY Giants refuse to play "World Series."

June 30, 1908 41-year-old Young fires third career no-hitter.



Apr. 20, 1912 Fenway Park opens; Red Sox beat NY Highlanders, 7-6.



Apr. 26, 1912 1B Hugh Bradley hits first home run over LF wall.

Oct. 1912 Beat NY Giants 5 games to 3 to win World Series.

July 11, 1914 Pitcher Babe Ruth defeats White Sox 4-3 in Major League debut.

Oct. 1915 Famed "Royal Rooters" cheer Sox on to World Series title over Phillies.

July 14, 1916 17-inning, 0-0 tie against St. Louis Browns.

Oct. 1916 Beat Brooklyn for second straight World Series title.

1917 Height of LF wall raised from 20 to 37 feet.

Sept. 11, 1918 Win fifth and last World Series; beat Cubs 4 games to 2.

1919 Ruth hits Major League record 29 HR; is sold to Yankees during winter.

May 8, 1926 Fire destroys LF bleachers.

Preserving the Red Sox Experience

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— GEORGE WILL, SYNDICATED COLUMNIST



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The Unforgettable Fenway Ten

Every Red Sox fan can recall countless memorable moments from games played at Fenway. Here's a quick look at 10:

1. Oct. 1, 1967 The Red Sox turn "Impossible Dream" into reality; clinch AL pennant with 5-3 victory over Minnesota.

2. Oct. 21-22, 1975 Carlton Fisk's 12th-inning home run off left-field foul pole at 12:34 a.m. caps 7-6 comeback win against Reds in Game 6 of World Series.

3. Sept. 28, 1960 Ted Williams hits 521st home run off Baltimore's Jack Fisher in final at-bat of career.

4. Apr. 29, 1986 Roger Clemens whiffs 20 Mariners in one game to set Major League record.

5. Sept. 6, 1912 "Smoky Joe" Wood beats Washington's Walter Johnson, 1-0, to win 16th straight game, tying Johnson's AL record set earlier that season.

6. Sept. 12, 1979 Carl Yastrzemski collects 3,000th hit.

7. Oct. 2, 1978 Bucky Dent's pop fly just clears the Wall for three-run homer that propels Yankees to 5-4 triumph in one-game playoff for AL pennant.

8. July 25, 1941 Lefty Grove notches 300th and finai victory of career.

9. Aug. 18, 1967 Tony Conigliaro is hit in face by fastball from California's Jack Hamilton; cuts short promising career of 22-year-old slugger.

10. May 10, 1999 Nomar Garciaparra becomes only 11th player in history to belt two grand slams in one game.





Clockwise from left: Carlton Fisk waves his home run fair in '75 Series; an unconscious Tony Conigliaro is carried off the field in '67; Roger Clemens holds his 20-K ball in '86.

FENWAY FACTS

DUFFY'S DOMAIN When fans filtered into Fenway Park for its opener on April 20, 1912, one of the first things they noticed was the 10-foot-high grassy berm in left field topped by a 10-foot-high wooden fence. The idea was to give overflow crowds who stood atop the embankment in front of the fence an unrestricted view of the game. The area was soon called "Duffy's Cliff," in honor of Boston left fielder Duffy Lewis, who quickly mastered the art of running up and down the steep embankment while chasing balls.

Moniker Madness

The nickname "Red Stockings" has been associated with professional baseball in Boston since 1871 when the National Association was formed. That moniker originally applied to the team that eventually became known as the Braves.

When a team was created for Boston in the fledgling American League in 1901, it was initially called the Americans to differentiate it from the city's NL club.

Nicknames were unofficial in this era, and teams were often identified by pet names that writers from various newspapers preferred to call them. From 1901 to 1907 the Americans were also called the Somersets, the Pilgrims, the Puritans and even the Plymouth Rocks. The club officially adopted the Red Sox nickname in 1908.

Red Sox Timeline



1932 John Quinn sells team to millionaire sportsman Tom Yawkey.

1933-34 Fenway undergoes major renovation, 10,000 seats added; most of "Duffy's Cliff" eliminated.

1936 23-foot screen added atop LF wall.

1938 Jimmie Foxx becomes only Red Sox player to hit 50 HR and 175 RBI.

1939 Rookie Ted Williams hits .327, with 31 HR and 145 RBI.

July 25, 1941 Lefty Grove wins 300th and final game.

1941 Williams hits .406.

1942 Williams wins Triple Crown (.356 BA, 36 HR, 137 RBI).

June 9, 1946 Williams hits longest HR at Fenway (502 feet, 38th row of RF bleachers); spot now marked by red seat.



July 9, 1946 Host All-Star Game; Williams hits two HR.

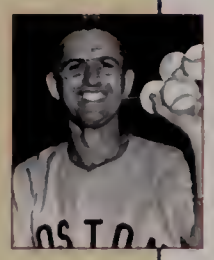
1946 Win 104 games, AL pennant; lose World Series to Cardinals in seven.

1946-47 Lights installed; advertising removed from LF wall, Wall painted green.

1947 Williams wins second Triple Crown (.343 BA, 32 HR, 114 RBI).

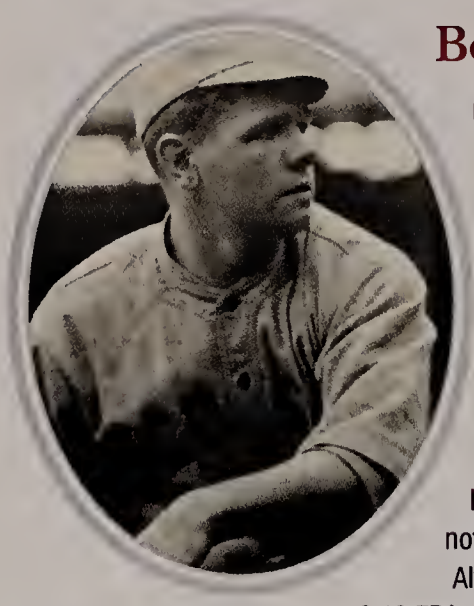
1948 Catch Indians on last day of season, lose one-game playoff for pennant.

July 14, 1956 Mel Parnell pitches no-hitter against White Sox.



Sept. 28, 1960 Williams hits 521st career HR in final at-bat.

UPI/CORBIS BETTMANN (FISK, CONIGLIARO, YAWKEY'S), AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (CLEMENS), PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (WILLIAMS SEAT)



Boston's Babe

Midway through the 1914 season the Red Sox shelled out $16,000 to sign a raw, 19-year-old left-handed pitcher named George Herman "Babe" Ruth, who had been under contract to Baltimore in the International League. Ruth won his debut for the Red Sox on July 11, 1914, but after three more games he was farmed out to Providence for more seasoning.

The Babe returned to Boston in 1915 and finished 18-8 as a rookie, then won 59 more games over the next four seasons. Ruth strung together 29 2/3 scoreless innings in the 1916 and '18 World Series, while notching a stellar 3-0 mark and 0.87 ERA.

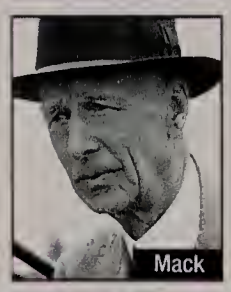
Although Ruth compiled an 89-46 pitching record with a 2.19 ERA during his Red Sox career, it was his bat that intrigued the Yankees. After he hit a Major League record 29 homers in 1919, the Yankees quietly purchased Ruth that winter for $125,000 and a $300,000 loan to Red Sox owner Harry Frazee, who wanted the cash to finance a string of Broadway shows, including the now infamous "No, No, Nanette."

The rest, you could say, is home run history. The deal crushed the Red Sox, turned the mediocre Yankees into a dynasty, dramatically altered the way baseball was played, and made Ruth arguably the most famous athlete in American sports history.

FENWAY FACTS

WILLIAMS' BURG When Ted Williams made his debut with Boston in 1939, he hit 31 homers, but many other long flies hit to right field fell just short of the 402-foot fence. That winter, the Red Sox built bullpens in front of the bleachers to bring the Splendid Splinter's target 23 feet closer to the plate. Dubbed "Williamsburg," the bullpens didn't help him initially — his home run total declined to 23 in 1940. Of course, he adjusted and went on to belt 248 of his 521 career dingers in Fenway.







Hometown Stars

Major League teams have had their share of stars from the Boston area over the decades. Here's an All-Star team of players who grew up in the long shadow of Fenway.

Pos.	Player	Hometown	Years	Key Stats/Honors
C	Mickey Cochrane	Bridgewater	1925-37	.320 BA, Hall of Fame (1947)
1B	Stuffy McInnis	Gloucester	1909-27	.307 BA, 2,405 H, 1,062 RBI
2B	Nap Lajoie	Woonsocket, R.I.	1896-1916	.338 BA, 3,242 H, 1,599 RBI, Hall of Fame (1937)
SS	Greg Gagne	Somerset	1983-97	.254 BA, 1,440 H, 111 HR
3B	Pie Traynor	Framingham	1920-37	.320 BA, 2,416 H, Hall of Fame (1948)
LF	Patsy Donovan	Lawrence	1890-1907	.301 BA, 2,253 H, 1,318 R
CF	Joe Kelley	Cambridge	1891-1908	.317 BA, 2,220 H, 443 SB, Hall of Fame (1971)
RF	Tony Conigliaro	Swampscott	1964-67, 69-71, 75	.264 BA, 166 HR, 516 RBI
DH	Richie Hebner	Norwood	1968-85	.276 BA, 203 HR, 890 RBI
RHP	Tim Keefe	Cambridge	1880-1893	342-225, 2.62 ERA, 2,560 K, Hall of Fame (1964)
LHP	Tom Glavine	Billerica	1987-present*	177-112, 3.37 ERA, Cy Young Awards (1991, '98)
RP	Steve Bedrosian	Methuen	1981-91, 1993-95	184 SV, 3.38 ERA, Cy Young Award (1987)
MGR	Connie Mack	East Brookfield	1894-1950	7,878 G, 3,776-4,025 W-L, Hall of Fame (1937)

**through June 17, 1999*

Red Sox Timeline

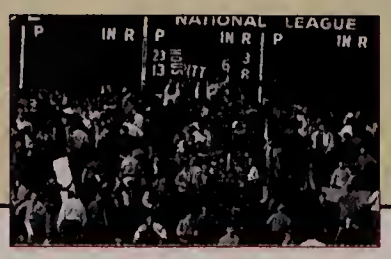
July 31, 1961 Host 31st All-Star Game; ends in 1-1 tie after nine innings due to rain.

Sept. 16, 1965 Dave Morehead pitches no-hitter; last time done at Fenway.

Aug. 18, 1967 Tony Conigliaro is hit in face by pitch from Angels' Jack Hamilton.

Oct. 1, 1967 Clinch "Impossible Dream" pennant; Carl Yastrzemski wins Triple Crown (.326 BA, 44 HR, 121 RBI).

Oct. 1967 Lose World Series vs. Cardinals in seven games.



Aug. 29, 1972 Luis Tiant pitches his second straight shutout at Fenway.

Apr. 6, 1973 Yankees' Ron Blomberg and Red Sox' Orlando Cepeda become first DHs in MLB history.

Oct. 21-22, 1975 Win Game 6 of World Series on Carlton Fisk HR off LF foul pole in 12th; lose Series to Reds in Game 7.

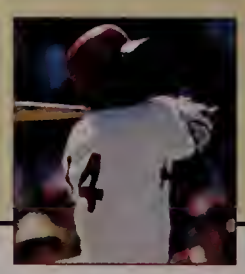


1975 Fred Lynn becomes only player to win MVP and Rookie of the Year honors in same season.

1975-76 Tin removed from "Green Monster"; covered with hard plastic and padded; electric scoreboard installed above CF bleachers.

Oct. 2, 1978 Win 99 games, lose one-game playoff to Yankees for pennant.

1978 MVP Jim Rice becomes first AL player since Joe DiMaggio to amass 400 total bases in a season.



NBL/MLB PHOTOS (RUTH); AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (LAJOIE); UPI/CORBIS-BETTMANN (MACK); PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (GLAVINE, LYNN, RICE)

Conigliaro 1970

Robinson 1966

Williams 1941

Jackson 1973

DiMaggio 1947

Vaughn 1995

Yastrzemski 1967

Doerr 1949

McGwire 1988

Foxx 1938

Puckett 1990

Hooper 1918

Rice 1978

Kaline 1955

Ruth 1927

Scott 1968

Garciaparra 1999

Killebrew 1969

Fisk 1975

Speaker 1921

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Ted Williams Fan Poem by Stan Grossfeld from the book, *Fenway*

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Warren Spahn (l) and Johnny Sain

Sportstown U.S.A.

The Red Sox may be the only baseball game in town now, but they're definitely not making waves alone in this sports-crazed town. Each April, the city plays host to the world's greatest distance runners at the prestigious Boston Marathon. And, of course, there's the 16-time NBA champion Celtics, the five-time Stanley Cup champion Bruins, the Patriots, who have twice appeared in the Super Bowl, and a seemingly endless array of action at the collegiate level.

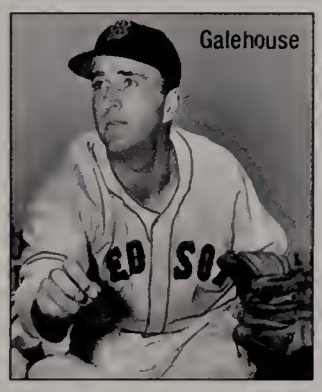
Baseball players have often referred to their season as a marathon. Actually, the Red Sox have an interesting link to the real thing. Since 1897, one of the city's biggest sporting days has been Patriots' Day, when thousands of marathon runners wind their way through the streets of the city. The Red Sox joined the party on this state holiday in 1916 by playing a home game, which has since become an annual tradition on the third Monday in April.

For the first half of this century, the city actually boasted two Major League Baseball teams. The Red Sox shared summer billing with the Braves, who actually preceded the Fens existence by 30 years. The "Miracle" Braves won the 1914 World Series and the 1948 club, anchored by pitchers Warren Spahn and Johnny Sain, pushed Cleveland to six games in the Fall Classic. But five years later, the Braves packed their bags and headed "west" for Milwaukee, leaving Boston baseball in the hands of the Red Sox.


Torrez

One Shot There have been only two one-game playoffs to decide the pennant in American League history. The Red Sox played in both and Fenway was the site of each game.

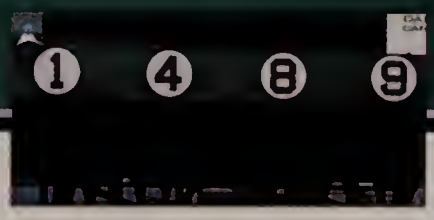
1948 On the final day of the season, three teams had a chance to win the pennant. The Red Sox beat the Yankees to eliminate them, and the Tigers defeated the first-place Indians to create a tie between Cleveland and Boston. In a controversial choice, manager Joe McCarthy picked 36-year-old Denny Galehouse, who had won only eight games, as his starter. The Indians, behind Ken Keltner's three-run homer, kayoed Galehouse and went on to win, 8-3.


Galehouse

1978 In a frantic finish, the Red Sox won eight games in a row to end the regular season and tie the Yankees with 99 wins. Boston grabbed a 2-0 lead against 25-game winner Ron Guidry after six innings, but light-hitting Yankee shortstop Bucky Dent popped a three-run homer into the left-field screen off Mike Torrez in the seventh. The Yankees won, 5-4, after Carl Yastrzemski popped up to end the game with the tying run on third base.

FENWAY FACTS

RETIRED NUMBERS The four red numbers on top of the Fenway Park roof are the only uniform numbers retired by the Red Sox: Ted Williams' 9, Joe Cronin's 4, Bobby Doerr's 1 and Carl Yastrzemski's 8. Cynics say 9-4-1-8 represents the eve of the last World Series won by the Red Sox and is an anagram for 1948, the year the Red Sox lost a one-game playoff for the pennant to Cleveland.



Red Sox Timeline

Sept. 12, 1979 Yastrzemski collects 3,000th hit.

1982-83 Luxury boxes installed along first- and third-base lines.

1983 Wade Boggs (.361 BA) wins first of five batting titles.


Apr. 29, 1986 Roger Clemens strikes out record 20 batters.

Oct. 1986 Win pennant, lose World Series to Mets in seven; Clemens (24-4, 2.48 ERA) wins MVP and Cy Young Awards.

Aug. 13, 1988 Set AL record with 24th consecutive home victory.

1988 Win AL East crown with "home grown" lineup; lose ALCS to Oakland in four.


1988-89 "600 Club" luxury boxes built behind home plate; state-of-the-art scoreboard is installed in CF.

Oct. 3, 1990 Clinch AL East title on final day of season; lose ALCS to Oakland in four.

1991 Draw all-time record 2,562,435 fans to Fenway Park.

July 8, 1994 John Valentin turns unassisted triple play against Mariners.


1995 Win AL East title; lose Division Series to Indians in three.

1997 Nomar Garciaparra named AL Rookie of the Year.

1998 Earn AL Wild Card; lose Division Series to Indians in five.

May 10, 1999 Garciaparra hits two grand slams in one game, becomes only 11th player to accomplish feat.

July 13, 1999 Host 70th All-Star Game. ◆

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (YASTRZEMSKI); UPI/CORBIS-BETTMANN (SPAHN AND SAIN, GALEHOUSE, BUCKNER, PILUNG); MLB PHOTOS (TORREZ); KEE/MLB PHOTOS (VALENTIN); BOSTON RED SOX (RET. NUMBERS)

BASEBALL IN BOSTON

IF YOU LOOK CAREFULLY AT THE VERTICAL STRIPES ON THE ancient, hand-operated scoreboard that sits in the middle of the green monster at Fenway Park, you will see that the initials of Thomas and Jean Yawkey are inscribed in Morse code. It is a fitting tribute to the understated style of the former owners of the Boston Red Sox who shunned publicity and celebrity over six decades as they built one of the most storied franchises in baseball history.

The team the young Tom Yawkey bought for the princely sum of 1.2 million dollars at the height of the depression in 1933 had fallen into disrepair after the previous owner, Harry Frazee, had taken it upon himself to defy the gods and sell Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees. Yawkey promptly lavished money and attention on his new club, refurbishing the park and bringing in established stars Lefty Grove, Joe Cronin and Jimmie Foxx, building toward what would become his lifetime purpose — to restore the team to its former glory.

Though Mr. Yawkey's Red Sox never achieved a world championship, the club was frequently in the pennant chase and provided some of the most dramatic moments in baseball history — the year Ted Williams finished the season with a batting average of .406, the seesaw World Series against the Cardinals in 1946, the miracle finish of 1967, the home run that Carlton Fisk "willed" fair in 1975, the ground ball slipping under Bill Buckner's legs. Indeed, even the failure to win a World Series became a part of baseball legend, attracting artists and writers to the saga of a team so often in contention only to be denied by a malign fate; the moments of disaster permanently etched into the memory of every Boston fan.

A DISTINGUISHED LEGACY

THE RED SOX OWE MUCH OF THEIR GLORIOUS TRADITION TO FORMER OWNERS TOM AND JEAN YAWKEY.

BY DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

With no children of their own, the Yawkeys treated their players like sons, spoiling them, generously rewarding them for their triumphs, overlooking their flaws, boosting their spirits if they were in a slump, tending to their injuries, defending them vigorously against outside criticism. In the era before players began moving regularly from one team to another, loyalty was a two-way street running between the Yawkeys and their players. So stable was the heart of the team year after year that Boston fans could recite the starting lineups in their sleep.

It has been said that the best men retain something of the little boy in them all their lives. This was certainly true of Tom Yawkey, who, even in his sixties, loved nothing more than to put on a uniform before batting practice began and hit grounders with the clubhouse staff. If he managed to hit the ball off the green monster, his exuberant cheer could be heard round the park. On such days, he seemed like a young boy playing in his own huge and impossibly green field of dreams.

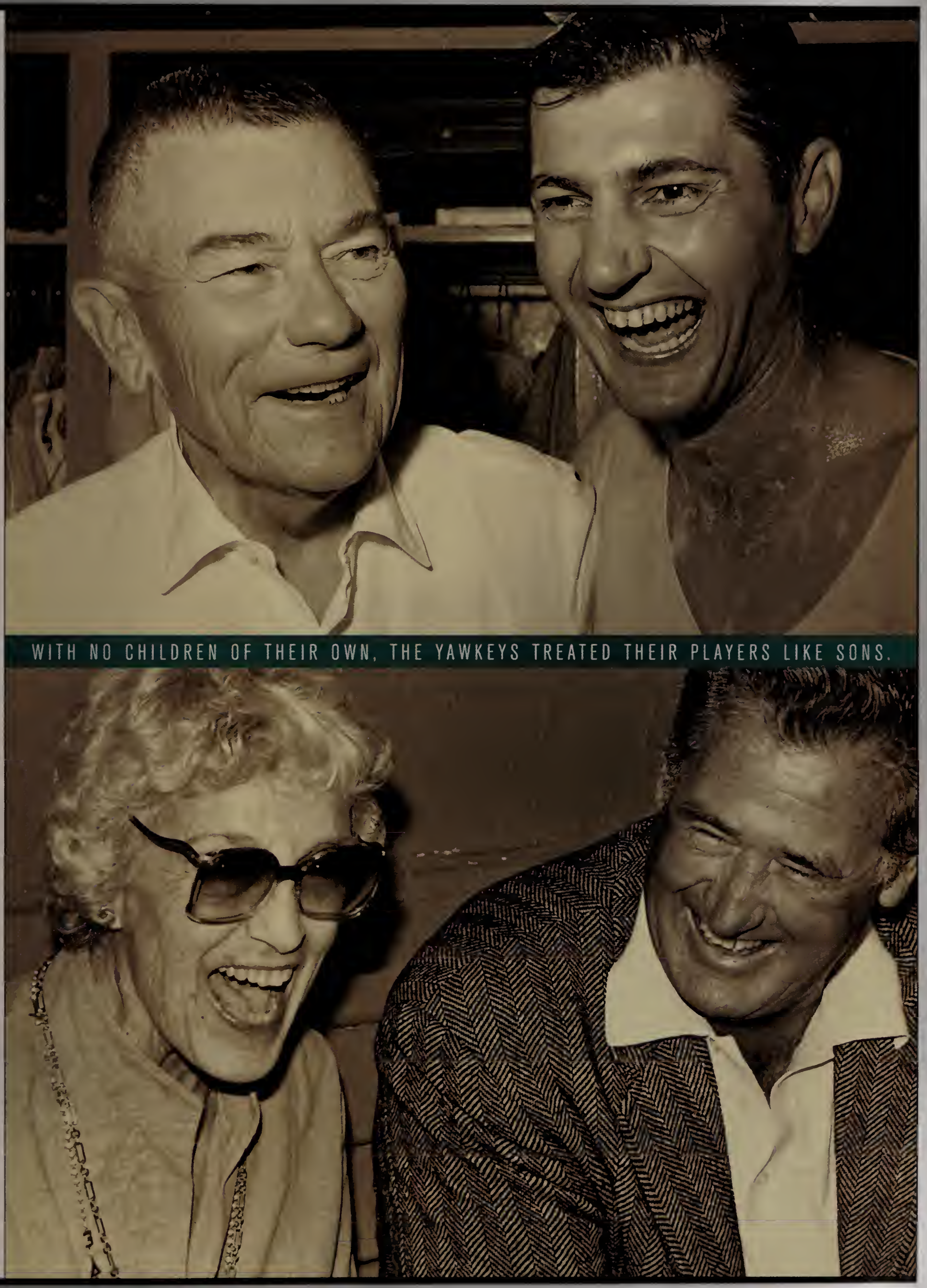
For both Tom and Jean, avid sports people who loved the outdoors, Fenway Park provided a welcome retreat from the confines of the suite in the Ritz Hotel they occupied during the baseball season. When the team was out of town, Jean would pack a lunch and spread a blanket near the right field wall. There, she and Tom would have a picnic in the deserted park while listening to the away game on the radio.

After Tom succumbed to leukemia in 1976, Jean carried on the Yawkey tradition, becoming a hands-on owner, caring for her players, sitting night after night in the corner of the owner's box at Fenway, religiously recording every play of every inning in a deluxe scorebook. Like most true fans, she had her own set of rituals that she followed in an attempt to bring good luck to the team. If the Sox needed runs to catch up, she would break out a bag of shell peanuts. If all the peanuts were gone, she would turn to lifesavers. If nothing was working, she would shift seats. And she would never leave a game before it was over. Though her ownership of the team made her perhaps the most powerful woman in baseball, she seemed happiest in the role of a passionate fan, continuing to shun publicity to such an extent that she became known as the Greta Garbo of sports.

I met her only once, in 1988, at Jean Yawkey night at the Boston Pops. When we were introduced, I imagined she would simply say hello, keeping her distance. But to my surprise, she greeted me with a smile that radiated warmth, telling me that we were linked by our common obsession with the odd collection of symbols, numbers and letters that enable a baseball lover to keep score. She had read an article in which I described how my father had taught me to keep score when I was only six, that every night when he returned from work he would sit beside me in seemingly rapt attention as I recounted in excruciating detail every action of the Brooklyn Dodger game that had just taken place that afternoon. She laughed, with a loud, hearty laugh, when I admitted that for years my father never told me that running boxscores appeared in the sports pages of the newspapers the next day, so I thought without me he would never even know what happened to our beloved team. In those few moments, I felt a connection had been established; the Garbo mask had been removed.

Mrs. Yawkey's death in 1992, at the age of 83, ended a period of nearly 60 years in which the team was owned by the Yawkeys. But there is no question that the spirit of this inseparable couple, their generosity and their genuine love of the game, will continue to live on in the memory of Red Sox fans for many decades to come. ◆

Doris Kearns Goodwin is a Pulitzer Prize-winning historian whose latest book is Wait Till Next Year, *a memoir about growing up in love with the Brooklyn Dodgers.*



WITH NO CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN, THE YAWKEYS TREATED THEIR PLAYERS LIKE SONS.

AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS (2)

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StRecteR

FENWAY

AND THE

GREAT WHITE WHALE.

By Stephen King.

The author, a dyed-in-the-wool Red Sox fan, has spent a lifetime hoping for a Boston World Series title.

I've got a theory about Herman Melville's classic novel *Moby-Dick* that you'll never come across in a college lit text. I believe that Captain Ahab, the crazed New Englander in charge of the *Pequod*, was doomed to spend his life chasing a white whale because the Red Sox hadn't been invented yet. If they had been, Ahab could have eschewed the foredeck and opted for the bleachers instead, peering through a set of second-hand binoculars rather than a spyglass and looking, as Red Sox fans have looked all my life, for a World Series flag rippling proudly in the breeze. Melville's Captain Ahab had only one leg; Moby-Dick bit off the other in an earlier encounter. The Fenway Faithful often feel like chewing off their own legs (or at least a few fingers) in frustration.

I know. Since the late '50s and early '60s — when such eccentrics as Pumpsie Green played for the Red Sox — I have been one of them. We are what *Boston Globe* columnist Dan Shaughnessy calls Red Sox Nation, descendents of the self-named Royal Rooters, who cheered for the Sox in the first decade of the 20th century. According to baseball historian Frederick Lieb, the head Royal Rooter was a saloon-keeper who went by the name (I love this) of Nuff Ced.

Mr. Ced and his followers usually showed up for games six or eight sheets to the wind, and Fenway's current crop of Bleacher Creatures will testify that this tradition continues to be upheld. Some left fielders and bullpen denizens love the Bleacher Creatures; others hate them; all have been showered impartially with beer, insults and a rain of beach-

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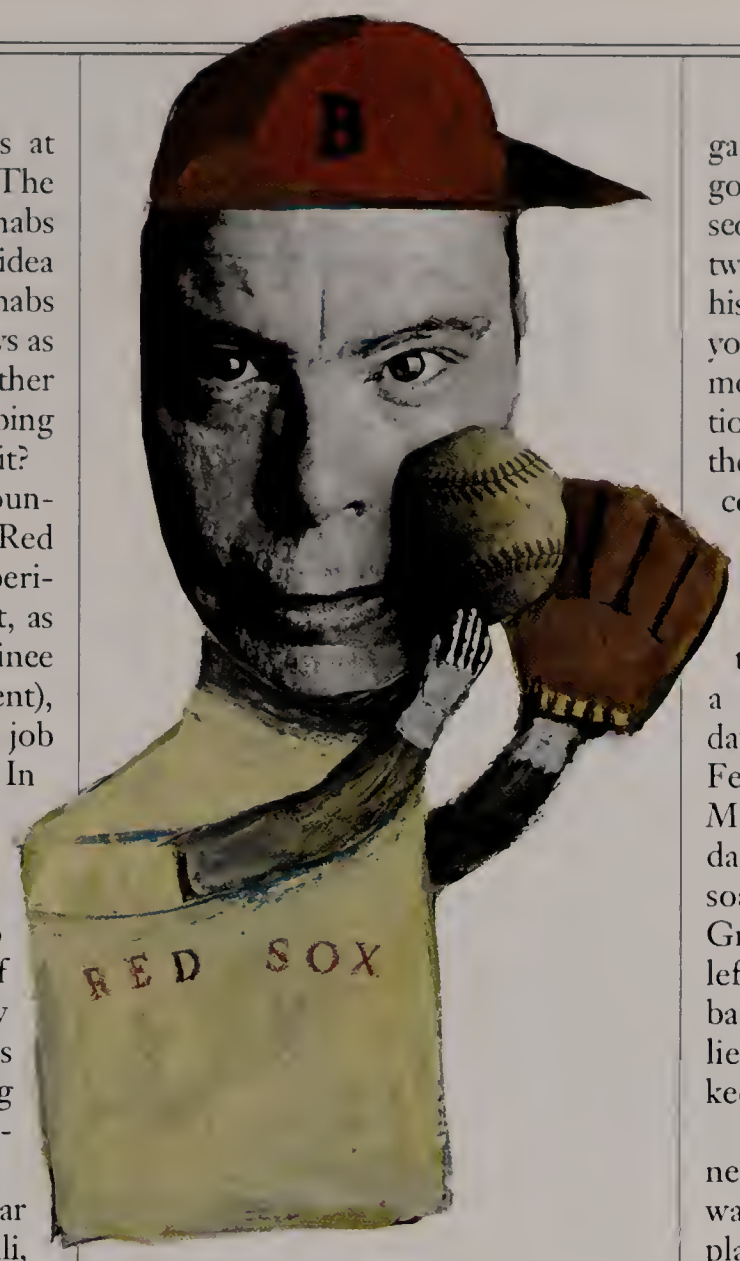
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balls. Beer isn't sold in the stands at Fenway, and this is probably wise. The idea of thirty thousand Captain Ahabs in one plaee is seary enough. The idea of thirty thousand *loaded* Captain Ahabs in one plaee, all bending their elbows as another game...another Series...another white whale of a *season* goes slipping away...that's sort of horrifying, isn't it?

Fans from other parts of the country, those who have read about the Red Sox Zeitgeist but never actually experieneed it (let alone been *steeped* in it, as some New Englanders have been sinee Warren G. Harding was President), don't understand what a hellish job rooting for the Red Sox ean be. In some ways it really is like setting sail on the *Pequod*, but for the shanghaied erew of the good ship *Red Sox*, the voyage never seems to end. We are blessed with a welter of gruesome memories, from Jimmy (*Fear Strikes Out*) Piersall's nervous breakdown to the dreadful beaning of Tony Conigliaro to the dismantling of eloser Calvin Sehiraldi.

We believed that 1967 — the year of Jim Lonborg and Rieo Petrocelli, the year Carl Yastrzemski won the triple erown — *must* be our year to finally harpoon the eursed whale. Were we not rooting for America's Impossible Dream Team, the elub that surmounted the 100-to-1 Vegas odds, seratehing and clawing its way to the pennant on the final day of the season, pulling past not just one team but two (Minnesota and Detroit)? Sure the Cards won the NL erown by 10-and-a-half games and they had Bob Gibson, but we had Yaz playing the caroms off the Green Monster...Ken Harrelson...Joe Foy...we had...well...*destiny*! And the Red Sox aetually drove the heavily favored Cards to a seventh game before Lonborg took the mound in the finale. He had been brilliant in his two previous starts, winning 5-0 and 3-1, but he was pitched out. The game was really over by the end of the sixth inning.

Fans who must sail forever in a doomed quest for the right to buy BOSTON RED SOX WORLD CHAMPIONS tee shirts have strange memories. For me, one of the strangest is of my wife saying, "Honey? Why are you just *sitting* there?" on an Oetober afternoon in 1978. And you know what? I eouldn't tell her. I eouldn't explain.



For the Fenway Faithful, 1978 was the sweet-dream season that turned into a nightmare; a Stephen King baseball story if ever there was one. The Red Sox had played the first half of that season like the Yankees of twenty years later; around All-Star time in '78, the Sox reeord was an incredible 62-28. We were livin' large, just maxin' and relaxin'. Then came the erash, best epitomized by the infamous Boston Massacre, when the Yankees eame to town late in the season and swept a four-game series. The 1978 regular season ended in a flat-footed tie, both the Yankees and Red Sox sporting identical 99-win reeords and neeessitating only the second one-game playoff in American League history.

I was teaching at the University of Maine at that time, and eaneelled my elasses — a thing I'd not done even when suffering a case of double bronchitis — so I could stay home and watch the game. After six innings, things looked good. We were leading the Yankees by a seore of 2-0, Mike Torrez was tossing a two-hitter, and Yastrzemski was doing his usual brilliant job in left field. My youngest son, Owen (then about twenty months old), was erying for some attention. I took him on my lap and he sat there eomfortably for awhile, watehing contentedly and then dozing off just as the white whale swam away from Red Sox Nation yet again.

In the top of the seventh, with two on and two out, Bueky Dent hit a towering fly to left field. On most days that ball was an easy out, even at Fenway (in every other park in the Major Leagues, it was an easy out *every* day). Not on *that* day, though. It soared into the netting above the Green Monster just above and to the left of the seoreboard. Dent eircled the bases with an unbelieving I-ean't-believe-this grin on his faee. The Yankees held on to win.

"I always loved Fenway," Shaughnessy quotes Yaz as saying, "but that was the one moment I hated the plaee...I still ean't believe [the ball] went into the net." Later, Yaz would foul out to end the game.

I watehed the postgame show (it was like attending a funeral of someone who had died unexpectedly) without hearing mueh of what was said. I was thinking that it was going to be a very long, very cold, and very depressing winter in New England. At some point in these grim ruminations I got up, turned off the TV, and settled baek into my chair with my young son still fast asleep in my arms. It was about then that my wife poked her head into the living room and asked why I was just sitting there. I remember thinking that Owen was the lueky one; Owen had slept through the whole damned thing.

But of eourse, that sort of blissful ignorance doesn't last. The fathers and mothers of Red Sox Nation passed down their doomed love of Ameriea's unluekiest pro sports team to their sons and daughters the way that some unfortunate physieal traits — erossed eyes, let us say, or premature baldness — are passed on from generation to genera-

1978 was the sweet-dream season that turned into a nightmare; a Stephen King baseball story if ever there was one.

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tion. Eight years after sleeping through the final three innings of the Red Sox-Yankees playoff game, Owen attended his first postseason game (it was also his first night game). It was the Red Sox against the Mets, and Boston had taken the first two games at Shea. That lent the Series first game in Boston a curious significance; no team taking a 3-0 lead in the Fall Classic had ever lost the World Series. And so, although it was a school-night, I felt okay about taking Owen to the ballpark. I felt like he was going to see something at the age of nine that I never had in my thirty-nine years; a Red Sox team that was all but guaranteed of winning the World Series.

Except the Red Sox lost Game 3, and in oddly boring fashion, given the fact that Boston's eccentric pitching genius of the moment, Dennis "Oil Can" Boyd, was on the mound. The Mets took the suspense out of it early, scoring four runs in the first and going on to win by a score of 7-1. On the way out of the ballpark, up long past his normal bedtime and terribly disappointed by the failure of his idol, the Can-Man, my son burst into tears. I put my arm around him and hugged him, reflecting that they were his first tears as a Sox fan...and not likely to be his last.

For the Ahabs of Red Sox Nation, 1986 was a trebly cursed year, a trebly cursed Series. It was one in which our vision of the white whale rolled over and all but *begged* for the harpoons. It lay there offering itself up in particular to a common Red Sox seaman named William "Billy Bucks" Buckner. It was Game 6 of the Red Sox-Mets World Series; the Sox were leading, three games to two. In that night's contest they were also leading, 5-3, in the bottom of the 10th inning at Shea. The first two Met batters went down easily. At one point the Red Sox were within a single strike of ending their long (sixty-eight years at that point; eighty-one as you are reading this) World Series drought.

I was sitting behind the wheel of my car, which was parked in the driveway of our summer home in western Maine, during that terrible half of the home 10th, waiting for the Red Sox to wrap it up. The only radio in the house had no antenna and would not pick up the closest Red Sox affiliate; the car radio would. It was late, after midnight, and I wanted to go to bed. Even more, I wanted to grab the bottle of champagne that was chilling in the fridge and pour myself a big, cold glass of it. I wanted to toast my Red Sox, who had finally done it — after all those years of trial and heartbreak, all the dream players who turned out to be bad dreams and all the turns of evil fortune — the Red Sox had finally done it!

That was when the roof fell in.

What followed were three consecutive singles and one wild pitch. And all at once, the game was tied. I sat there in my Ford, the door open and the domelight spilling a thin yellow glow out onto the gravel, mosquitoes flying around my ears and a cigarette smoldering between my fingers, waiting for the Red Sox at least to choke the Mets off and get another turn at bat. Then Mookie Wilson hit his infamous ground ball up the first-base line and right at Buckner.

As soon as he hit it — a routine grounder! — I had an evil premonition that I would not be drinking champagne that night. And when the announcer — probably it was Ken Coleman, but I can't remember for sure — screamed, "*And it gets past Buckner! It's through his legs!*", I was somehow not surprised. Instead of going back in to bat in the top of the 11th with the game tied, the Red Sox went back to their hotel with the *Series* tied. The following night, the Mets put them away.



The Red Sox had let the great white whale get away yet again. That whale has never come so close to our boat since. Before beating the Indians in the opening game of their playoff series in the fall of 1998, the Red Sox had lost 13 straight games in postseason competition, beginning with Game 6 against the Mets and including two four-game sweeps by Oakland and one three-game sweep by the Indians. Counting the 1998 Series, the Red Sox's postseason record in my lifetime stands at 10 wins and 23 losses. Before anyone scoffs at the idea that the Red Sox are a team of *malign* destiny, he or she should consider that statistic very closely. A run of 10-23 would not be unusual for a second-division club, but we are talking here about games played in the postseason, and players among the best to wear the uniform — they have included Roger Clemens, Carl Yastrzemski, Carlton Fisk, Jim Rice, Dwight Evans, Tom Gordon and Pedro Martinez.

The numbers are seriously out of whack; they do not compute; they are not, as Mr. Spock would say, logical. The citizens of Red Sox Nation don't worry about stuff like that, though; in our hearts we all know the motto ABANDON LOGIC (AS WELL AS HOPE) ALL YE WHO ENTER HERE should be carved over the main entrance to Fenway Park.

And really, who needs logic? We latter-day Royal Rooters don't come to Fenway to run the odds or compute the stats; that's for Yankee boosters, and the Red Sox fan's view of the Yankees is, why bother? Rooting for the Yankees is like rooting for Microsoft. At Fenway, we come to chase the whale.

The big one.

The white one. ◆

Stephen King is the author of many best-selling books. His most recent is The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon. *The author would like to thank Dan Shaughnessy, whose book* At Fenway *was invaluable in the preparation of this article.*



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Setting the Table



The guys at the top of the lineup ignite offenses, frazzle opponents, and help their power-hitting teammates rack up gaudy RBI numbers.

BY PETE WILLIAMS

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Henderson's uncanny ability to work a pitch count, reach base safely, distract a pitcher, and get in position to score is remarkable.

His stolen base records may stand for decades. When he retires (if he ever retires) Rickey Henderson likely will own the all-time records for runs scored and walks. He is widely regarded as the game's greatest leadoff hitter.

And yet, the most accurate barometer of his value on the field cannot be measured by Rotisserie numbers or chronicled in a box score. His uncanny ability to work a pitch count, reach base safely, distract a pitcher, and get in position to score is remarkable. Now with the Mets, at 40 and in his 21st season, the ageless Henderson remains one of the Majors' most skilled practitioners of the loosely defined art of table-setting.

Over the past two decades, no one has consistently run the table better. Hundreds of pitchers, such as Carlos Perez, can attest to that. During Spring Training, the Dodgers' left-hander watched as Henderson led off a game by working the count to 2-0, then punched a single to left. He strutted and swaggered off first enough to draw seven throws to first from Perez, scooted over to third when Brian McRae roped a double off the distracted pitcher, then scored when Mike Piazza grounded out.

Technically, it was just a single and a run scored for Henderson, without so much as a stolen base. But if that's all it was, he would not still be roaming basepaths after a 1998 season in which he hit just .236 for the Oakland A's.

If there were such a statistic as stealing runs, "I'd probably be the king of that," Henderson says. "And creating things. That's what I like the most, creating things. I can tell when I get the pitcher paying more attention to me than to the hitter. I try to move around to get him to focus on me and forget about the hitter."

In today's powerball era, during which stolen base totals have declined, Henderson's table-setting skills have become even more important.

"Just because you hit for a high average doesn't mean you're getting the job done," says Henderson, who entered the 1999 season sixth all-time in runs scored and third in walks. "I know there are other ways I can help the ballclub, by getting a walk, stealing bases and scoring a run. That's why that record would mean so much to me, because the best way a leadoff hitter can produce is by scoring runs."

After years of eye-popping stats and mega-earnings, Henderson can afford to focus on the little things. But how many players are willing to sacrifice batting average or, in the case of second or third hitters, at-bats in order to move runners along as part of the table-setting process?







Clockwise from left: Kenny Lofton uses the bunt as a weapon to draw infielders in; with Sammy Sosa batting cleanup, Mickey Morandini makes every effort to get on base; Jason Kendall flashes surprising speed for a catcher.

COOPERSTOWN PHOTO LEFT: GREENWALD PHOTOS; NOSA/GMLB PHOTOS; MLB PHOTOS







Clockwise from top left: Leadoff sparkplugs Ray Durham, Chuck Knoblauch and Craig Biggio wreak havoc at the plate and on the basepaths.

"Not many," says Atlanta hitting coach Don Baylor. "It's not a skill you can take to arbitration. The game has become so individualized that I don't know if young players want to do it. But the ability to move runners along is the hallmark of any successful team."

"A table setter is called upon to forego his own stats and it takes a very unselfish player to do that," says Philadelphia general manager Ed Wade. "That kind of ability is very much underrated."

Table setters traditionally occupy the first or second spot in the lineup and fit the workmanlike mold of someone like the Chicago Cubs' Mickey Morandini, a scrappy hitter who works the count and produces a .380 on-base percentage. But some of the game's top hitters also fall into the category. The San Diego Padres' Tony Gwynn has played the role perfectly for years, moving between the leadoff role down to the No. 3 hole. Baylor attributes part of his 1979 American League MVP award to Angels teammate Rod Carew, who batted third that season after many years hitting first or second for the Twins.

Like Henderson, Cleveland's Kenny Lofton provides a five-tool package at the leadoff position, but still qualifies as a premier table setter. While he's hit more for power and stolen fewer bases in recent years, the Indians' fleet outfielder still manages to play "little ball" with the best of them, ranking consistently among the league-leaders in stolen bases, on-base percentage and bunts in play.

Like many speedsters, Lofton has found it more difficult to steal in recent years as more pitchers have incorporated the quick release or "slide-step" into their routines. "It's gotten tougher to steal bases, no question," says Lofton. "But there's still a lot you can do out there to distract the pitcher and help your team score runs."

Rarely does a rookie emerge as a table setter, if only because it takes time to learn patience at the plate and all of the little things that go into the role. Not that a young player can't embrace the job. Take Pittsburgh's Jason Kendall, who recorded an on-base percentage of .372 as a rookie in 1996 and raised it in each of the following two seasons. A rare leadoff hitting catcher, he stole 26 bases in '98 — a National League record for a catcher — and helped set the table further by getting hit by an NL-high 31 pitches.

White Sox second baseman Ray Durham struggled as a leadoff hitter when thrust into the table-setting role in 1997, but emerged last season as one of the game's best. Then there's Toronto's Shannon Stewart, who in only his second full season has proven quite proficient as a table setter.

"You don't usually see a young player handle it so quickly," says Tampa Bay's Jose Canseco, who batted behind Stewart for much of '98 in Toronto. "He does a great job producing runs, doing things that aren't always noticed."

Sometimes, on a dominant team, an entire lineup can play the role effectively. "A table setter could be the number seven hitter," says Tampa Bay general manager

"Table-setting means running out all the ground balls, trying to beat out double play balls and putting pressure on the defense. My job is to work the count and show people what the pitcher has. But the bottom line is to get on." —HOUSTON'S CRAIG BIGGIO



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Tom Goodwin will do just about anything, including eat dirt, to get into scoring position.

Chuck LaMar. "Look at the '98 Yankees. They had a lineup full of table setters. They could hit with men on base, steal a base, hit and run. They had the luxury of playing a diversified game because they constantly had runners on base."

The 1998 Yankees drew comparisons to their 1927 predecessors, but the '98 edition won 114 regular season games and a World Series title not with eye-popping power numbers but through solid table-setting. No player hit 30 home runs and the 123 RBI first baseman Tino Martinez provided were just the sixth-highest output in the American League. No one other than third baseman Scott Brosius had a career year. But virtually every regular had an on-base percentage of .355 or higher. Many were among the league leaders in pitches-per-at-bat.

With an impressive .324 batting average, .384 on-base percentage and league-high 127 runs scored last season, Derek Jeter would be considered a premier table setter from the No. 2 position by any standard. But perhaps more tellingly, the shortstop batted .235 with two strikes, 40 points above the league average, and was unafraid to sacrifice a pitch or two to give leadoff man Chuck Knoblauch an opportunity to steal second.

Before the season, manager Joe Torre rightly worried that Jeter might strike out too much to fill the second slot in the lineup. But Jeter's 119 whiffs did not get in the way. Says Torre, "He's a special player that way. Even when you're struggling with the bat, you can manufacture runs."

During the '98 campaign, the Texas Rangers and Yankees finished first and second, respectively, in runs scored. Perhaps not surprisingly, the Rangers ranked second in on-base percentage and fifth in walks, while the Yankees finished first in both categories and also stole 153 bases, second only to Toronto.

In April of '98, Texas got off to a 20-4 start fueled by a Major League-record 35 RBI from cleanup hitter Juan Gonzalez, who for much of last season looked like he might challenge Hack Wilson's single-season RBI record of 190. It was no coincidence that Gonzalez had table setters Mark McLemore, Tom Goodwin, Luis Alicea and Roberto Kelly getting on base more than 36 percent of the time as they shared the leadoff and second positions. And third batter Rusty Greer, who drove in 108 runs himself, also did some yeoman work by walking 80 times, scoring 107 runs and recording a .386 on-base percentage.

"Those kind of things often go unnoticed," says Rangers manager Johnny Oates. "Juan's going to drive in a lot of runs in any circumstances, but it helps when you have guys who can get on base."

Beyond the Rangers sparkplugs, Oates mentions guys like Jeter, Durham and Tony Phillips whose skill at distracting pitchers with their base-running abilities offers another benefit. "This often gives your power hitters better pitches to hit, as they may see more fastballs than off-speed pitches," he says.

Like the Rangers and Yankees, the Houston Astros racked up huge offen-



Who's the Best?

With Rickey Henderson in the twilight of his career, we asked managers to rate today's top three players in their respective leagues when it comes to setting the table. Here are the overall results based on their selections:

National League
1. Craig Biggio
2. Tony Gwynn
3. Eric Young

American League
1. (tie) Derek Jeter
   Kenny Lofton
3. Chuck Knoblauch

Honorable mentions
NL—Henderson, Jason Kendall, Fernando Vina
AL—Ray Durham, Rusty Greer, Tony Phillips

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sive numbers in 1998 because of some effective table-setting. The club produced a National League-high 874 runs by crafting a league-high .356 on-base percentage while finishing third in walks and second in stolen bases.

> "The '98 Yankees had a lineup full of table setters. They could hit with men on base, steal a base, hit and run."
>
> —TAMPA BAY GM CHUCK LAMAR

The addition of Moises Alou provided another explosive bat to an existing lineup that included Jeff Bagwell, Craig Biggio and Derek Bell. But the Astros also received strong contributions from unlikely sources such as infielders Bill Spiers and Ricky Gutierrez.

"People talk about Bell, Bagwell and Alou knocking in 100 runs, but they don't do so unless those guys are on base," says Houston manager Larry Dierker. "The guy that just moves runners along and sacrifices but doesn't get himself on base is not worth that much."

Biggio, the Astros leadoff man, excels in most table-setting categories. While his walks dropped from 84 to 64 last season, he ranked in the National League's top 10 in runs, on base percentage and stolen bases. "A lot of little things make up table setting," says Biggio. "It means running out all the ground balls, trying to beat out double play balls and putting pressure on the defense. As a leadoff hitter, my job is to work the count and show people what the pitcher has. But the bottom line is to get on."

Several obscure stats effectively measure table-setting ability, figures not typically listed in agate type in sports sections. The leaders in "percentage of pitches taken" rarely see their names in print, although perennial leaders such as Henderson, McLemore, the Braves' Walt Weiss, the Mets' John Olerud and Mark Grace of the Cubs are among the game's best table setters.

Gwynn is legendary for his ability to hit with two strikes, but Toronto's Tony Fernandez and Hal Morris of the Reds also rank high. This season, Fernandez is tearing up the AL with his bat and has found himself hitting in the cleanup spot. And then there's Mets outfielder Roger Cedeno. After playing in just 311 games with L.A. over four seasons, Cedeno is making the most of his full-time status with New York; he's been among the NL leaders in on-base percentage and steals in the first half of '99.

A table setter does not necessarily have to be an elite hitter, however. For years, the light-hitting Weiss worked the count and scrapped for hits at the bottom of the Oakland A's and Colorado Rockies lineups. Placed at the top of the Braves order by default last year, following the departure of Lofton to Cleveland, he performed several duties not seen in most baseball stat books.

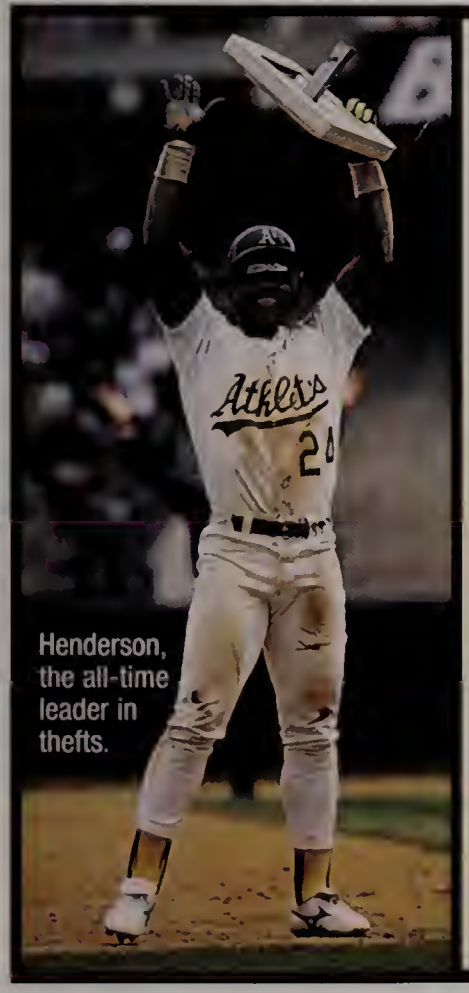
Besides his .386 on-base percentage, the 1988 AL Rookie of the Year helped wear out pitchers and gave teammates batting behind him a glimpse of what to expect by taking a league-high 66.8 percent of pitches and putting 55 percent of swings into play.

"I'm not your traditional leadoff hitter," says Weiss, who surrendered the role when the Braves acquired Bret Boone over the winter. "My game is more working the count and getting on base any way I can."

Table-setting, in other words.

"Fans don't always notice the subtle things a guy like Walt does," says teammate Ryan Klesko. "The guys who hit homers and drive in runs get more recognition. But the guy who sets the table ultimately determines if the team produces runs and wins ballgames." ◆

Pete Williams is a contributor to Fox Sports News and Street & Smith's Sports Business Journal.



Henderson, the all-time leader in thefts.

Shelving the Steal?

As baseball has evolved from the speed game of the mid-1980s to modern powerball, today's table setters steal far fewer bases than their predecessors of just 15 years ago. Add in the removal of AstroTurf in some ballparks and the near-universal use of the quick-release "slide-step" by pitchers, and it's no wonder that 1998 stolen base totals were 23 percent less than in 1987, when an all-time high of 3,585 bases were swiped.

"Base stealing is a lost art," says Padres first base coach Davey Lopes, who stole 557 bases between 1972 and '87.

According to Cardinals' outfielder Eric Davis, who nabbed 80 bases for Cincinnati in 1986, there's a simple explanation. "You don't get paid for it. Even Rickey (Henderson) has never gotten paid for stealing bases. He's been paid for being the greatest leadoff hitter of all time."

At a time when the standard for a premier power hitter has been raised from 30 home runs a season to 40, base-stealing expectations have been lowered. Table setters are more apt to key on distracting the pitcher, pressuring the defense (e.g: breaking up the double play), or executing a "run-and-hit" play.

As a result, despite all the talk about Mark McGwire's single-season home run mark of 70, Henderson's record of 130 stolen bases, established in 1982, might be more unbreakable.

"These days, the best a guy can hope for is to steal 80," says Seattle speedster Brian Hunter. "Rickey's record will never be broken."

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Ballpark Pranks

BY MICHAEL KAY

Big league practical jokers consider the "hot foot" as much a part of the game as the hot dog.

Former Philadelphia Phillies pitcher Dick Ruthven used to give away his post-game plans by the way he dressed. If he arrived at the clubhouse casually dressed, he was either going home or hanging out with the guys. But, if he was wearing a suit and his hair was perfectly coifed, then everyone knew he had a date.

One afternoon, Jim Kaat took note of his teammate's dressy attire. While Ruthven neatly hung up his suit and carefully tucked his expensive Italian loafers in his locker, Kaat hatched a plan, thus continuing a tradition as old as the game itself: attempting to play the perfect practical joke.

After Ruthven headed out to the field, Kaat returned to the locker room and filled Ruthven's loafers with water. Then, with the gleeful mischievousness of a youngster, he placed each shoe into the freezer. As the game ended, he ran into the clubhouse, grabbed the frozen shoes and put them back in his teammate's locker.

An oblivious Ruthven showered, combed his hair and put on his handsome suit. Only he couldn't put on his

ILLUSTRATIONS BY KEITH LOCKE

Ballpark Pranks



shoes thanks to a couple of frozen ponds inside. Searching for the culprit, he spied Kaat stifling a giggle. With that Ruthven threw a frozen shoe at his teammate. The rest of the team, aware of the plan, erupted in laughter. Mission accomplished: player embarrassed, date ruined, team loosened.

When we think of practical jokes, we think of third graders sneaking a frog into the teacher's desk, waiting breathlessly for the shock when she opens her drawer and shrieks in horror.

And, really, what are baseball players but well-paid third graders? Since they play a youngster's game, they still possess a great deal of youthfulness. So, during idle moments they naturally try to make teammates look foolish, just for the heck of it. In a weird way, a good practical joke, a good laugh, often can unify a team.

In a weird way, a good practical joke, a good laugh, can unify a team.

Ask players from any era who the game's greatest practical joker is, and they all come up with different names. One player that seems to be mentioned more often than others is Bert Blyleven, who won 287 games over a 22-year career before retiring in 1992. In fact, there is near reverence in the voices of those who recount his pranks.

"He was the best, just the best," said one player, requesting anonymity. "He would do anything, but most of all, he was the king of the hotfoot."

The "hotfoot" is a joke whose thread runs through the fabric of baseball humor. The concept is simple; you light someone's foot on fire. It doesn't sound hilarious, but in baseball it goes over big. Remember, baseball is a sport where it's considered sophisticated to come up with a clever nickname like "B" when a player's name is Brian, so a hotfoot plays like a classic Woody Allen film.

We won't reveal the blueprint detailing how the hotfoot is achieved, but let's just say it involves paper, chewing gum and a lighter. And the result? Well...the victim is clueless to the prank, that is, until his foot begins to burn and he starts hopping up and down, much to the delight of everyone in on the joke.

Blyleven was known to crawl underneath dugout benches and sneak into bullpens to pull off this classic stunt. And Roger McDowell and Howard Johnson were said to be quite adept at the hotfoot when they were teammates on the New York Mets.

Baseball humor extends well beyond this classic trick, though.

For some reason, some of the greatest practical jokers in the history of the game have honed and practiced their craft out of the bullpen. The Rangers' closer John Wetteland has carried on that tradition through the various stops in his big league career.

Wetteland's fun side may surprise many fans, as well as media members, because that is a part

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Wetteland also uses some shocking methods to make sure his pitchers are paying attention to the game, including pop quizzes where he asks a teammate what the game situation is at that moment. If the answer is not correct, Wetteland throws a cup of water in the offending player's face. One former teammate says, "You can believe we were all in the game with Wette around. Who needs a face full of water?"

Wetteland believes his wacky pranks serve a purpose beyond eliciting laughter. He is simply attempting to unite the relievers as a family and make the long hours they spend together in the bullpen worthwhile.

Former reliever Sparky Lyle was another player famous for practical jokes. His specialty was cakes — as in ruining cakes. Anytime a teammate got a cake for any occasion, Lyle would simply sit, butt naked, on the cake. Needless to say, it certainly made an impression.

Lyle also terrorized his teammate Bobby Murcer one time in the mid-1970s. It seems that Murcer loved the rocking chair that sat for years in front of his locker. One day Murcer got into the chair and it collapsed. Turns out Lyle had gone into the clubhouse and sawed off the legs and then reattached them just enough so that Murcer would not suspect foul play.

Ballpark Pranks

of his personality he never shows to the public. In front of cameras and notepads he is all business, never betraying the utter wackiness that only his teammates see.

For instance, while sitting in the bullpen during a game, he will occasionally shove ten pieces of gum into his mouth and chew until it becomes a gooey mess. Then, he'll drop the chaw into a cup of coffee and let it sit for two innings — to become a filthy, sticky weapon — before using his pinpoint control to distribute the goods. Sometimes he fires the splotch of goo onto the back of a reliever's uniform just as the pitcher is entering the game. When he's in a meaner mood, he will rub it into the hair of a bullpen catcher or teammate, thus forcing victims to cut their hair to get this messy concoction removed.

Another prop that has served as the main course for numerous gags is shaving cream. Ken Retzer, a player on the old Washington Senators, often would wait until a player fell asleep on the team bus, hands folded in his lap, before squirting shaving cream all over the guy's hands. When the player woke up, he would instinctively rub his eyes and, as a result, the shaving cream would end up all over his face.

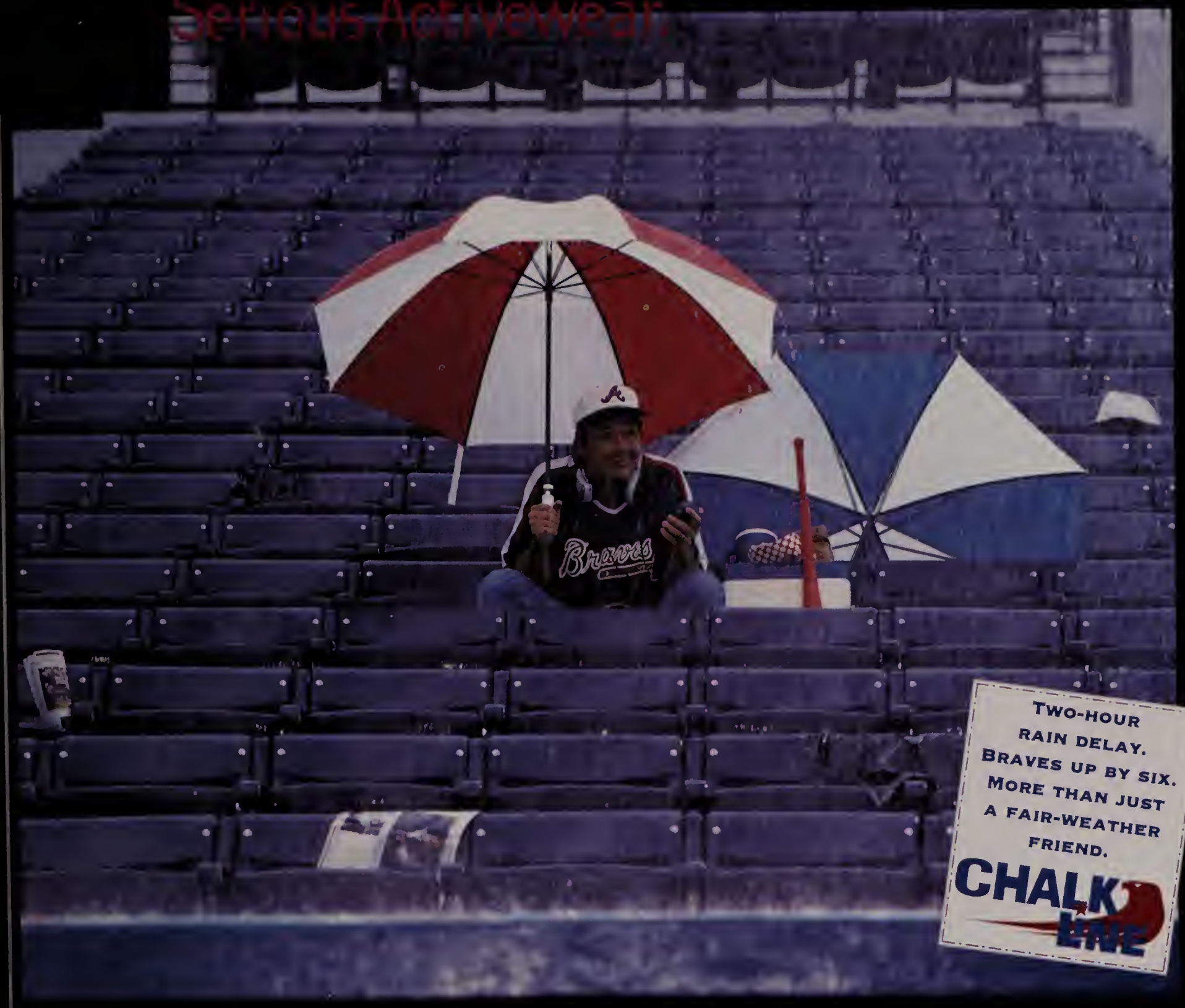
Jay Johnstone also used shaving cream for his tricks while with the Dodgers. He would lather a phone receiver in shaving cream, put it down on a desk and then tell a teammate there was a phone call. More often than not, the unsuspecting player ended up with a mouthful and earful of cream, much to the delight of the team.

Other gags are so much more elaborate and actually need additional manpower.

Back in the early '50s, Phil Rizzuto of the Yankees was often the butt of his teammates' practical jokes. They put spiders or frogs in the scrappy shortstop's glove, since he was deathly afraid of anything creepy crawly.

Sometimes Wetteland fires the splotch of goo onto the back of a reliever's uniform just as the pitcher is entering the game.

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UPPER DECK

Some of the greatest practical jokers in the history of the game have honed and practiced their craft out of the bullpen.

One time, however, Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford hatched a much more elaborate plan. One year Rizzuto came to Spring Training driving a snazzy little sportscar. He was so proud of his new wheels that Mantle and Ford decided something had to be done. So they enlisted some of their strongest teammates to lift Rizzuto's car and put it snuggly between two trees. Rizzuto had to call tow trucks and tree surgeons to finally get his car back.

But don't think these practical — and impractical — jokes are confined to the Majors. In fact, many of the great practical jokers hone their crafts in the Minors.

One player, Steve Zeem, who never made it to The Show, once victimized an entire team when he placed a rotten egg capsule in an air vent. The place stunk for two weeks and there was nothing anyone could do.

A great practical joker, someone like former pitcher and present-day broadcaster, Larry Andersen, sneers at such a base joke. He took pride in his stunts and took days and sometimes weeks to plan them. No shaving cream, no snakes, no stink bombs.

Perhaps his greatest practical joke involved trading a player to Japan — or at least that's what Wayne Gomes thought had happened to him.

"It was 1996 and I got the Phillies front office and Gomes' agent involved, and ESPN to film it," Andersen says. "Bill Dancy was the manager at Reading and called Gomes into his office one Saturday and told him he had been traded to Japan as part of a one-year deal.

"Meanwhile, we had hired a Japanese reporter to come in and interview Wayne. Dancy told him that the Japanese crew would follow him around as he prepared to leave to Japan.

"Dancy also told Wayne that he had to come back to the office for the plane ticket the following day (Sunday) and then leave for Japan on Monday. Gomes was in shock. He called his Mom and Dad to tell them the news. The film crew taped him as he told his parents he'd be playing on Hideo Nomo's old team. He wasn't, but he just wanted to tell them something good. The crew also caught him saying he didn't know "nothin' about sushi."

"Wayne had been messing with me for a couple of weeks and guys had told him, 'Don't mess with Larry, he'll get you. Anyway, this all came to an end when Dancy called a team meeting about an hour later and asked anyone on the team if they had anything to say to Gomes before he left. I stood up and said, 'I just want to say, I wish you the best...and also, they told you I'd get you.'"

Gomes was both incensed and relieved, but knew that he had been had by a great prankster.

In baseball, there is rarely real, lasting anger by players when they are the butt of a practical joke. From plastic wrap on top of a toilet seat (you figure it out!) to gelatin in a bathtub, players experience shock, horror and annoyance at the practical jokes played on them. And just as quickly they realize that it's all as much a part of the game as the ball, bat and glove. ◆

Michael Kay is a New York Yankees broadcaster on WABC-Radio and is the Yankee locker room reporter on MSG Network.

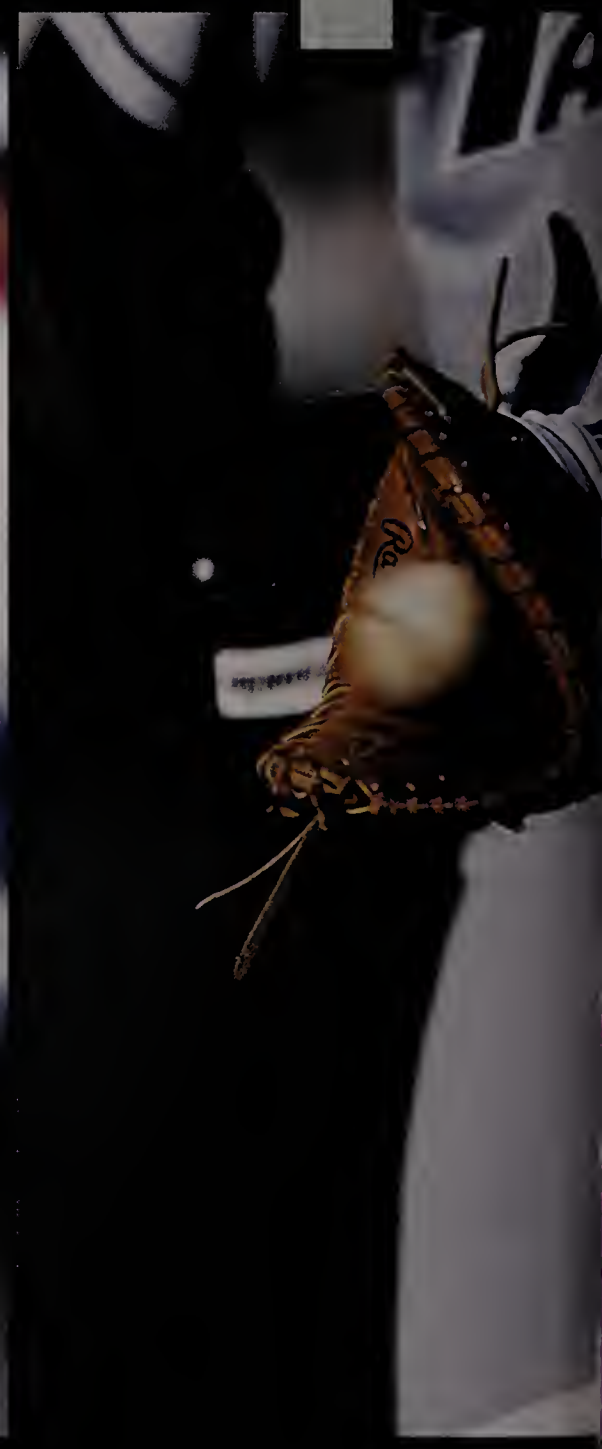
Buried Alive?

Not all practical jokes require extensive materials or elaborate plans. One specialty of Rangers' reliever John Wetteland is burying parts of teammates' uniforms on the field. One time he swiped the jacket of the bullpen catcher, who was busy warming up a pitcher, and buried all of it except for one sleeve. On the top of the sleeve that remained out of the ground he placed a batting glove, giving the impression that someone was waving from underground. When the catcher was done with warm-ups, he turned for his jacket, only to see it "buried alive." Wetteland simply stared out at the field, innocence personified.



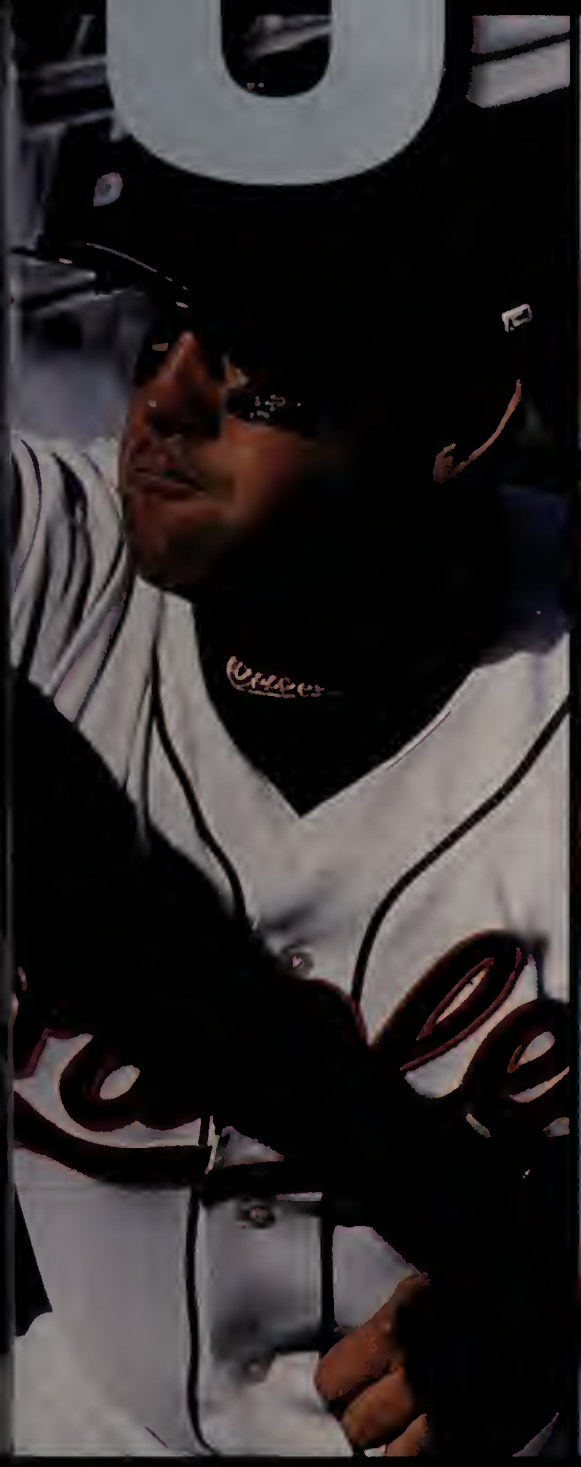
FIRST





A hard-hitting, smooth-fielding group of AL first basemen packs the deepest position in the big leagues. BY SEAN PLOTTNER

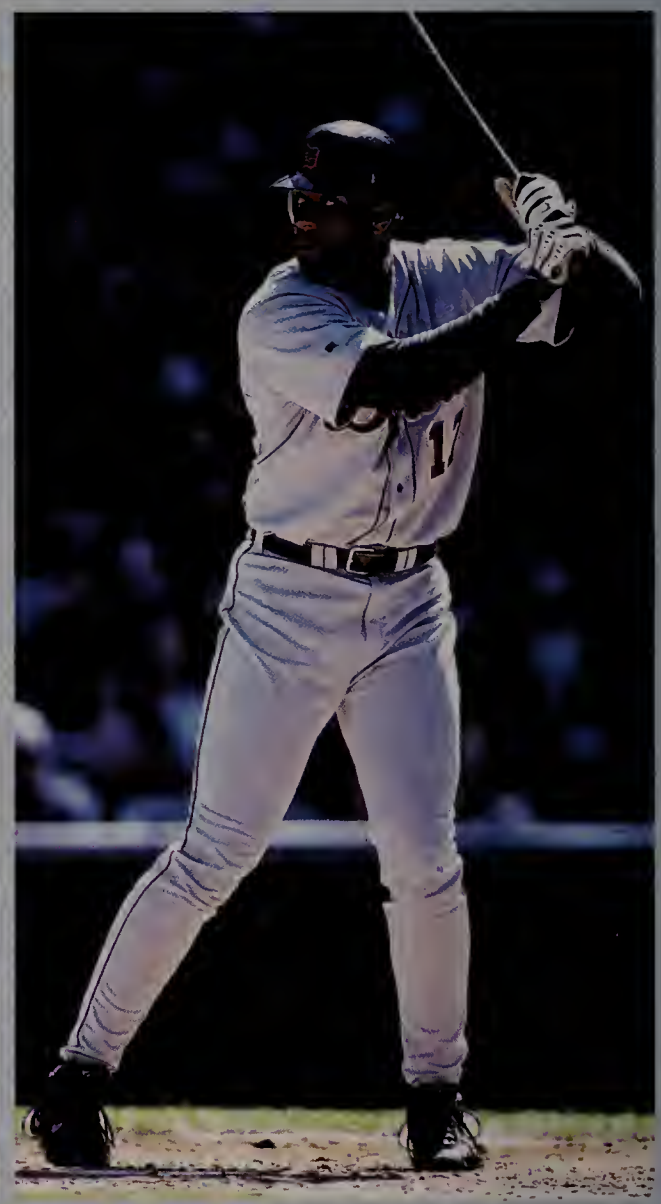
CLASS





Remember choosing up neighborhood teams, how the slowest, biggest guy always wound up playing first base? Well, those days have disappeared...at least in the big leagues. Somewhat lost amidst baseball's most recent longball glories is a remarkable trend unfolding at the position, especially in the American League. Used to be, you put your worst fielder at first, the guy who couldn't run, but who had some pop at the plate. But faster than you can say "fielding liability," that sort of player has bitten the dust. ▮ The '90s have seen the emergence of a whole new breed playing the position. And there's an abundance of riches when it





David Segui (left) has staked his claim at first with fine-tuned glove-work, while Tony Clark poses one of the AL's most ferocious longball threats.

comes to the American League, where first base is the deepest and most explosive position in baseball. Just look at the current crop of starters: Mo Vaughn (40 HR, 120 RBI average since '95). Rafael Palmeiro (last year's Gold Glove winner and all-around iron man). Jim Thome (last year's All-Star Game starter). Tino Martinez (110-plus RBI each of the past four seasons). The Clarks, Tony (93 homers over the past three years) and Will (six-time All-Star). These guys give a whole new meaning to the term fantasy baseball.

But there's also Frank Thomas (two-time league MVP and five-time All-Star, though he now splits time at DH), Fred McGriff, Carlos Delgado, David Segui and Jason Giambi. Include up-and-comers such as Paul Konerko and, well, you get the idea. It's a whole new ballgame over at first.

What's frightening is having to choose one of these guys to start the All-Star Game. Early July always begets picnics, pyrotechnics and, lately, fireworks of another kind: the annual heated controversy over which two AL first basemen are most worthy of All-Star status (one is voted by fans, the other selected by the manager).

With the position now deeper than a moon shot by former AL first bagger Mark McGwire or even a Tim McCarver profundity, the decision has never been more difficult. What's going on here? Why is it that nearly every first baseman in the league is either promising, very good or outright great?

Chalk part of it up to pure coincidence. Okay, so the baseball gods have declared the dawning of a new Golden Age of first basemen, and that's that. But coincidence is only part of the answer.

"You know, a lot of people think of a first baseman as a guy who stands over there just to catch throws, but it's not like that at all," says Thome, Cleveland's sock-stretching first bagger. "What stands out now is these guys are athletes."

Make that exceptional athletes. "They're all tremendous competitors, and as I look at them, a lot of these guys are old school," says the Angels' Vaughn, as he considers his peers. "They're workhorses. Everyday, take-it-to-the-limit ballplayers. They are not ordinary."

No argument here. Look at the monster numbers these guys put up. Traditionally, first base has been a source of power at the plate. Lately, the

"I think people underestimate how many runs you can actually save. Balls in the dirt, wild throws, so many little things happen at that bag." –Seattle's David Segui

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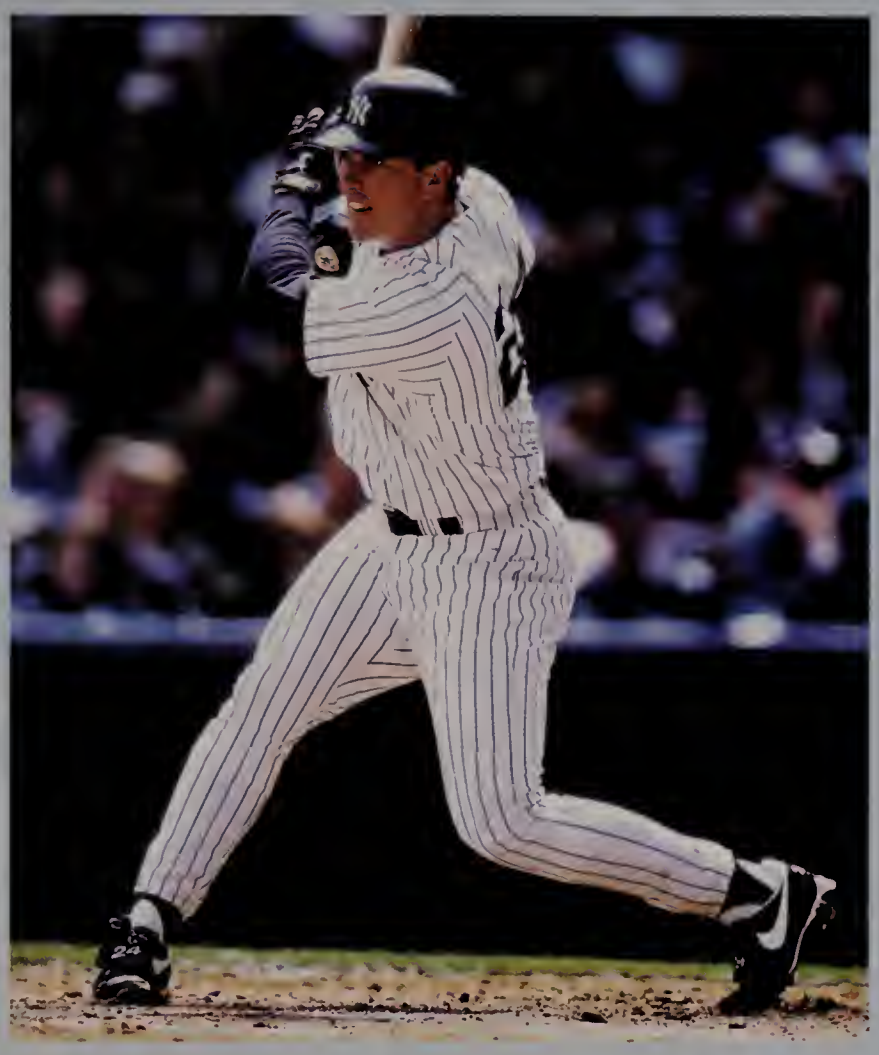
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"A lot of these (AL first basemen) are old school. They're workhorses. Everyday, take-it-to-the-limit ballplayers. They are not ordinary." –Anaheim's Mo Vaughn

numbers have become downright gaudy. Check out league leaders in home runs, runs batted in, hits, on-base percentage and batting average. If you don't find several first basemen among them, dial 911. Something's wrong.

Not surprisingly, one circuit lives up to its reputation as a hitters' league. If you compare last season's cumulative offensive stats of top AL first basemen with their NL counterparts, the AL guys lead in every category hut two: stolen bases and, thanks to that guy named McGwire, home runs (the slugger's 70 homers accounted for roughly one-quarter of the longballs hit collectively last year by NL first basemen).

"Offensive numbers in general are on the way up, and since first base has historically been an offensive position, I think it's only natural that we're seeing a lot of great hitting first basemen now," says Bruce Markusen, senior researcher at the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library.



On a team full of stars in New York, it's easy (but dangerous) to overlook the yearly 30 HR, 120 RBI output by Tino Martinez.

And don't think first basemen, all of whom hit in the middle of their teams' batting order, aren't aware of it. "These days there are a lot of players who are offensive-conscious," says Baltimore's Will Clark. "First base is a spot where you can really concentrate on your offense."

Concentrate they do, but not only at the plate. Caveman baseball, in which powerful hitters stand around holding a glove at first base between at-bats, has given way to a higher standard. "When I first came into the Major Leagues, first base was viewed as the place where you put an old catcher or old outfielder," contends Clark. "Now the position is where you put some of your best athletes, because these guys are not only great hitters but also very good in the field."

They are, despite the bulk that comes with being a first baseman these days. First basemen have traditionally been big because that makes them a convenient target for infielders' throws (all first baggers

FULL HOUSE

While some AL first baggers have spent time on the DL or have just started out slow thus far in '99, judging by past performance, you can expect the "friendly" competition to heat up as the summer progresses.

	1998 Stats			1999 (through 6/14)		
Player, Team	**Avg.**	**HR**	**RBI**	**Avg.**	**HR**	**RBI**
Tony Clark, Tigers	.291	34	103	.237	6	27
Will Clark, Orioles	.305	23	102	.327	5	18
Carlos Delgado, Blue Jays	.292	38	115	.269	16	57
Jason Giambi, Oakland	.295	27	110	.266	10	35
Tino Martinez, Yankees	.281	28	123	.251	10	36
Fred McGriff, Devil Rays	.284	19	81	.311	16	43
Rafael Palmeiro, Rangers	.296	43	121	.359	19	57
David Segui, Mariners	.305	19	84	.283	7	24
Jim Thome, Indians	.293	30	85	.244	8	29
Mo Vaughn, Angels	.337	40	115	.294	14	41





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The DH has replaced first base as a home to the hobbled and the glove-impaired. It has prolonged many a career.

currently in the Hall of Fame stood over six feet tall). But only in recent years have they started coming in solid 230-pound packages. And among even the biggest, such as the 240-pound Vaughn and Detroit's 6-foot-7-inch Tony Clark, nimble footwork and soft hands have become de rigueur.

Baltimore's Clark, known for his wide-eyed, tunnel-vision intensity, relishes the glovework. "I have to work at it, but I enjoy it," he says. "And I know there are going to be days when I may not be able to contribute offensively, because the pitcher's having a great day. If I'm not able to contribute with the bat, I definitely am trying to contribute with the glove."

"Your glove comes into play a lot," says Tony Clark, now in his third full season with the Tigers. "Throws from nearly every direction, holding runners and covering the hole. Then, when you've got a big lefty up, you're suddenly playing the hot corner."

Thome, who moved to first two seasons ago after playing third base for years, says the position requires more of a mental fix on the game than other positions may require. "You've always got to be thinking — on cutoffs, relays, holding the runner," he says.

Segui is a rare AL first baseman in that his glove gets even more praise than his bat. "First base has had that kind of stigma that you can throw any old fat slob over there, not an athlete, and you'll be okay," says the Mariners' 33-year-old veteran. He feels former greats like Keith Hernandez and Don Mattingly showed how important the position is with their aggressive defense. "I think people underestimate how many runs you can actually save at that position," adds Segui. "Balls in the dirt, wild throws, so many little things happen at that bag that a good defensive first baseman saves a lot of runs."





While Jason Giambi (left) has hit at least 20 homers in each of the past three seasons, Paul Konerko is getting the chance to prove his "top prospect" label with the White Sox.

Incredibly, Segui committed just one error in 1998 (and commits, on average, fewer than four a season). And even though he hits *only* 20-some homers a year, he fits in well on a Seattle team loaded with power. Still, he's heard the same criticism his entire career: "Segui, you're a first baseman. You've got to hit more home runs."

Segui spent four seasons playing in the National League with New York and Montreal. Not surprisingly, he knows firsthand the difference between first basemen in the Junior Circuit and those in the NL: The AL guys tend to bash the ball more.



ROD'S DOMAIN

The back of Rod Carew's jersey should have read "Line Starts Here," because for a long time, any American League first baseman hoping to start the annual Midsummer Classic had to fall in behind this eventual Hall of Famer. Between 1976 and '84, the prolific hitter with the Twins and Angels was selected as the AL All-Star Game starter at first base eight times.

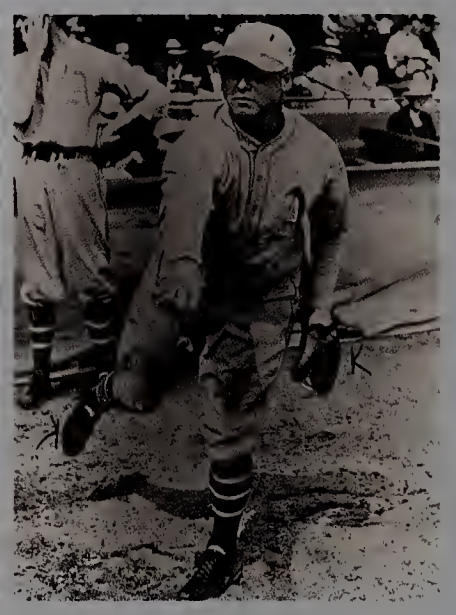
Carew, now a hitting coach with Anaheim, earned 15 consecutive starting nods. In his first nine appearances (1967-75), he was voted the starter at second base. After Twins manager Gene Mauch moved him to first base, thereby preserving the great hitter's career, Carew still kept collecting votes.

Back then, the position wasn't as stocked as it is today, but many fine players never got to start while Carew played. Not Eddie Murray of the Orioles, Chris Chambliss of the Yankees, or Cleveland slugger Andre Thornton. Not George Scott of the Red Sox, nor his teammate Carl Yastrzemski when he played first base. And young sensations Kent Hrbek of the Twins and the Yankees' Don Mattingly also had to wait behind Carew.

Small wonder: Carew's seven batting titles — he posted a .328 lifetime average, including 3,053 hits — and 1977 AL MVP honors easily earned him fan-favorite status and recognition as one of the game's premier players.

ZAGARIS (GIAMBI); PILLING (KONERKO, CAREW); ALL MLB PHOTOS





"The American League is still more of the 'sit back and wait for the home run' type of league," he says. Hence the offensive gaudiness of AL first basemen. They play an extremely offensive-minded position in an offensive-minded league.

Much of the credit for this can go to the designated hitter rule. It's a big reason why the AL typically has a higher batting average and ERA than the NL. But the AL-only rule has played an even more specific role in creating the new breed at first base. According to many managers, younger players have more trouble adjusting to a hitting-only role in which they sit in the dugout between at-bats. The DH position better suits an aging hitter who may be past his fielding prime.

Remember those old catchers Will Clark was talking about? Well, instead of trotting them out to first base, managers pencil in these veterans at the DH spot. The DH has replaced first base as a home to the hobbled and the glove-impaired. It has prolonged many a career. More important, it's allowed managers to keep a good athlete out at first. One who is increasingly devoted to strength conditioning, who utilizes top-notch instruction (including the hitter's favorite learning device — the videotape) and who possesses an ultra-tough mentality. Such a potent recipe adds up to trouble for pitchers when these sluggers step into the batter's box.

"They're digging in with less fear than ever before," says Chuck McMichael, director of scouting for the Texas Rangers.

No wonder these guys can cover the inside of the plate better, although Vaughn insists hitting is more about "attitude" than protective equipment. "You've got to have that attitude when you're in the fire every day," he says.

All of these factors have created a remarkable situation in the AL — nearly every team sports an established, bonafide quality first baseman that can hit with tremendous power, or with decent power and tremendous average. And there's not a clumsy fielder among them.

Indeed, the league is experiencing a Golden Age at first base. It's not the first. Michael Schell, an associate professor of biostatistics at the University of North Carolina, has crunched more numbers and stats than even the most crazed of rotisserie fans. His conclusions? As far as hitting is concerned, baseball has seen two previous Golden Ages for first basemen. The first, from 1930 to '42, featured the likes of Lou Gehrig, Bill Terry, Jimmie Foxx, Johnny Mize (all Hall of Famers) and Frank McCormick. The second, from 1979 to '89, included Steve Garvey, Cecil Cooper, Keith Hernandez, Eddie Murray and Don Mattingly all playing in the prime of their careers. The immediate predecessors of today's class certainly boasted a few players who possessed power, hit for average and exhibited smooth glovework, but the job title did not demand the combination the way it does today.

"I do think there is more depth, in both leagues, at first base now, than we've seen in just about all other eras in baseball," says Markusen. He points out that in the pre-1920s "deadball era" of baseball, first basemen were mostly singles hit-

"Now the position is where you put some of your best athletes, because these guys are not only great hitters, but also very good in the field." –Baltimore's Will Clark

Clockwise from top left: Lou Gehrig and Jimmie Foxx dominated the first base position in the 1920s and '30s, blasting 493 and 534 homers, respectively. Frank Thomas may be a part-time first bagger nowadays, but he still puts a big hurt on fastballs on a full-time basis.



NBL/MLB PHOTOS (GEHRIG), MLB PHOTOS (FOXX), PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (THOMAS)

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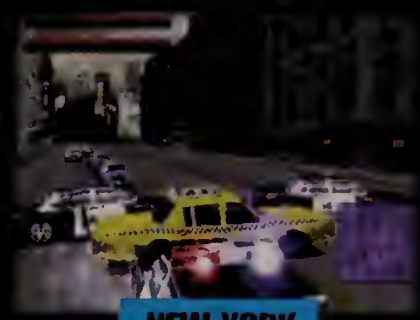
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Will any of the current stars playing first base in the AL make it to the Hall? It's not hard to imagine at least a couple of them receiving strong consideration.

ters. Eventually, rule changes ushered in more offense and hard-hitting first basemen like Gehrig, who started unloading at the plate. At the same time, the primary focus at first base became hitting, not fielding. "Scoring runs became more important," says Markusen. "Teams could no longer afford having a first baseman who hit .270 and had no power, even if he was a great defensive player." The seeds of having a clumsy-fielding, hard-hitting first baseman had been planted.

Power has prevailed ever since. This year, with the enshrinement of Orlando Cepeda, 16 first basemen will have made it to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Only three of them, all deadball players, finished their careers with fewer than 100 home runs.

Will any of the current stars playing first base in the AL make it to the Hall? Time will tell, but it's not hard to imagine at least a couple of them receiving strong consideration. So far, the 1960s stand as the decade that's produced the most Hall of Famers at first base: Willie McCovey, Harmon Killebrew and Cepeda.

The period we're now in could produce more. And more of the new breed are on the way — first base prospects who can hit the ball a mile, drive in lots of runs, hit for average, and field well. "Each organization hangs its hat on maybe two or three prospects who have power, four if they're fortunate, in their developmental system," says McMichael. "I'd be willing to bet that at least one if not two of these guys on every team are first basemen."





Eddie Murray (left) and Steve Garvey combined for seven Gold Gloves and 18 All-Star Game selections between 1974 and '91.

As they come up, it won't be easy for these guys to stand out among their positional peers. Still, it's mighty good company to keep. "Because there are so many horses over at first base, if you're able to do something — anything — that stands out in a positive way," says Tony Clark, "you know you've arrived on the map."

Even if that map is crowded. ◆

Sean Plottner is a freelance writer based in New York.

FRATERNAL BOND

Think the competition to make the All-Star squad at first base in the AL is fierce? Think again. These guys really like each other.

"It's sort of a mutual admiration society," says Will Clark. "You want to see other people at your position do well, and that's definitely true in the American League."

These first basemen claim they don't try to outdo one another. In fact, they help each other. "We push each other in a respectful way," says Mo Vaughn. "We're always encouraging each other."

Not to mention complimenting each other's work. "(Rafael) Palmeiro has one of the prettiest, smoothest swings I've ever seen," says Jim Thome. David Segui praises the work Vaughn has done defensively: "He could have just rested his career on his great hitting, but he worked hard on having a complete game." Tony Clark calls Carlos Delgado "one of the strongest guys I've ever seen."

No wonder these guys would never sob about not being selected to or playing in the All-Star Game. They try, instead, to keep up with each other. "We've all gotten pretty close over the past few years," says Vaughn, "and we're all pulling for the success of each other. It's like a friendly competition because we know that if we can stay within range of each other (as hitters), then we're all having pretty good years."



Vaughn

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS (3)

Another American Classic

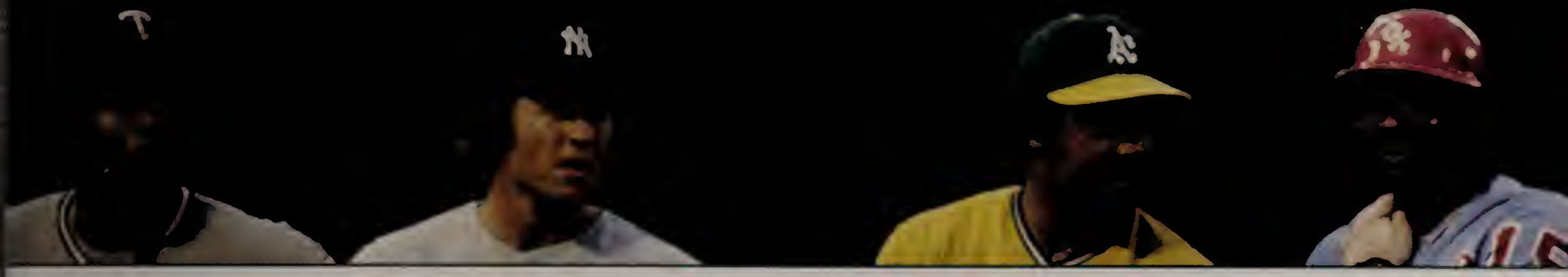


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MLB PHOTOS

Year by Year

A Complete History of the All-Star Game

July 6, 1933 Comiskey Park, Chicago (AL) AL: 4 NL: 2
"The Game of the Century" premiered with Babe Ruth driving a Bill Hallahan fastball just inside the right-field foul pole for a two-run homer in the third inning. Frankie Frisch answered Ruth with a sixth-inning blast of his own for the National League.

NL	000	002	000	2	8	0
AL	012	001	00X	4	9	1



MLB PHOTOS/NATIONAL BASEBALL LIBRARY

July 10, 1934 Polo Grounds, New York (NL) AL: 9 NL: 7
National League starting pitcher Carl Hubbell fanned Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Jimmie Foxx, Al Simmons and Joe Cronin in succession as the National League jumped to a 4-0 lead. But the American League rallied for two in the fourth and six more in the fifth for a 9-7 win.

AL	000	261	000	9	14	1
NL	103	030	000	7	8	1

July 8, 1935 Municipal Stadium, Cleveland (AL) AL: 4 NL: 1
Jimmie Foxx supplied the offensive power with a two-run homer in the first inning and a run-producing single in the fifth. Fireballer Lefty Gomez provided the pitching prowess with six innings of three-hit work, as the American League earned its third straight victory.

NL	000	100	000	1	4	1
AL	210	010	00X	4	8	0

July 7, 1936 Braves Field, Boston (NL) NL: 4 AL: 3
The National League defeated the American League for the first time, 4-3, scoring twice in the second and twice more in the fifth, while Dizzy Dean and Carl Hubbell held their rivals scoreless through six.

AL	000	000	300	3	7	1
NL	020	020	00X	4	9	0

July 7, 1937 Griffith Stadium, Washington (AL) AL: 8 NL: 3
President Franklin Roosevelt threw out the first ball. Lefty Gomez, starting for the American League for the fourth time in five All-Star Games, threw out the second, then hurled three scoreless innings. The National League's Joe Medwick collected four hits in a losing cause, as the American League, led by Lou Gehrig's two-run blast off Dizzy Dean, coasted to an 8-3 win.

NL	000	111	000	3	13	0
AL	002	312	00X	8	13	2

July 6, 1938 Crosley Field, Cincinnati (NL) NL: 4 AL: 1
Johnny Vander Meer, coming off his back-to-back no-hitters only a month before, threw three scoreless innings to pace the National League to its second All-Star Game victory. He was complemented by Bill Lee and Mace Brown, as the trio scattered seven hits. The error-prone American League didn't help its cause, either.

AL	000	000	001	1	7	4
NL	100	100	20X	4	8	0

All-Star Game Records

Individual Batting, Baserunning, Game

Most Runs, Game: 4
Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946.

Most Runs Batted In, Game: 5
Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946;
Al Rosen, AL, July 13, 1954.

Most Hits, Game: 4
Joe Medwick, NL, July 7, 1937 (two singles, two doubles in five at-bats);
Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946 (two singles, two home runs in four at-bats, also one base on balls);
Carl Yastrzemski, AL, July 14, 1970 (three singles, one double in six at-bats), 12 innings.

Most Times Reached First Base Safely, Game: 5
Charlie Gehringer, AL, July 10, 1934 (three base on balls, two singles); Phil Cavarretta, NL, July 11, 1944 (three bases on balls, one single, one triple); Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946 (one base on balls, two singles, two home runs).



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



MLB PHOTOS

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Most Two-Base Hits, Game: 2
Joe Medwick, NL, July 7, 1937; Al Simmons, AL, July 10, 1934; Ted Kluszewski, NL, July 10, 1956; Ernie Banks, NL, July 7, 1959; Barry Bonds, NL, July 13, 1993.

Most Three-Base Hits, Game: 2
Rod Carew, AL, July 11, 1978.

Most Home Runs, Game: 2
Arky Vaughan, NL, July 8, 1941 (consecutive); Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946; Al Rosen, AL, July 13, 1954 (consecutive); Willie McCovey, NL, July 23, 1969 (consecutive); Gary Carter, NL, August 9, 1981 (consecutive).

Most Total Bases, Game: 10
Ted Williams, AL, July 9, 1946.

Most Bases on Balls, Game: 3
Charlie Gehringer, AL, July 10, 1934; Phil Cavarretta, NL, July 11, 1944.

Most Stolen Bases, Game: 2
Willie Mays, NL, July 9, 1963; Kelly Gruber, AL, July 10, 1990; Roberto Alomar, AL, July 14, 1992; Kenny Lofton, AL, July 9, 1996.

July 11, 1939 Yankee Stadium, New York (AL) AL: 3 NL: 1
Joe McCarthy used six of his Yankees in the starting lineup and saw them deliver three of the Junior Circuit's six hits—including a solo shot by Joe DiMaggio. Hard-throwing Bob Feller entered the game in the sixth inning with the bases loaded and one out and exited unscathed, after forcing National League shortstop Arky Vaughan to hit into an inning-ending double play.

NL	001	000	000	1	7	1
AL	000	210	00X	3	6	1

July 9, 1940 Sportsman's Park, St. Louis (NL) NL: 4 AL: 0
Boston's Max West gave the National League a three-run bulge in the first inning with a three-run dinger, and the National League won, 4-0, to record the first shutout in All-Star Game history. Manager Bill McKechnie used fresh pitchers every two innings to hold the mighty American League bats to three hits.

AL	000	000	000	0	3	1
NL	300	000	01X	4	7	0

July 8, 1941 Briggs Stadium, Detroit (AL) AL: 7 NL: 5
A dramatic two-out, three-run homer in the bottom of the ninth by Ted Williams carried the American League to victory. Until Williams' drive into the upper right-field stands, the batting hero had been the National League's Arky Vaughan, who singled and cracked a pair of two-run homers.

NL	000	001	220	5	10	2
AL	000	101	014	7	11	3

July 6, 1942 Polo Grounds, New York (NL) AL: 3 NL: 1
The first war-time game was a twilight affair which started at 7:22 p.m. after a blackout test. Cleveland's Lou Boudreau, leading off the game, crushed Mort Cooper's second pitch into the upper left-field stands for a homer. Tommy Henrich followed with a double and Rudy York tagged one into the short right-field porch to give the American League all the runs it needed.

AL	300	000	000	3	7	0
NL	000	000	010	1	6	1

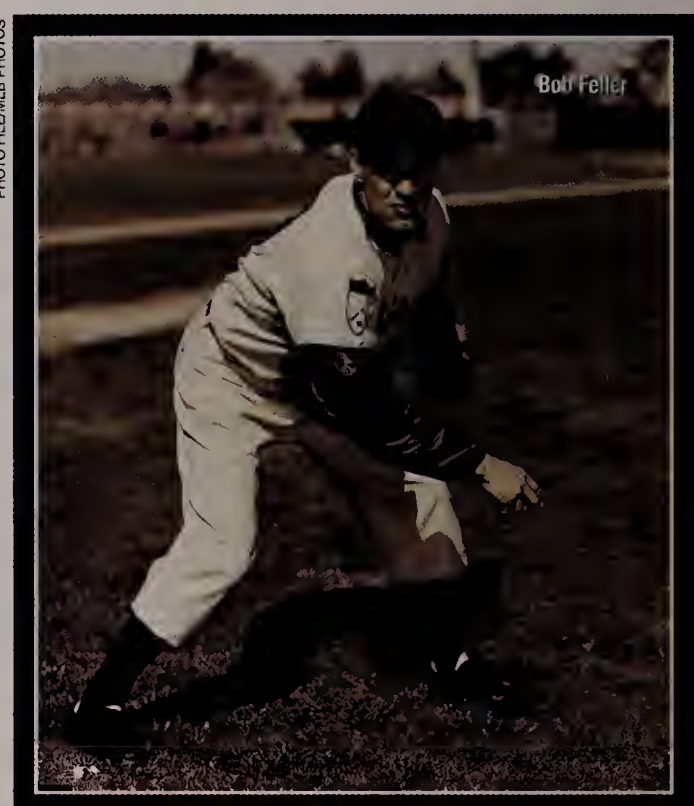
July 13, 1943 Shibe Park, Philadelphia (AL) AL: 5 NL: 3
Bobby Doerr's three-run homer in the second inning propelled the American League to a 5-3 win in the first All-Star Game played at night. Led by Vince DiMaggio's three hits, the National League out-hit the American League, 10-8, but could only manage single runs in the first, seventh and ninth innings, as it lost for the eighth time in 11 All-Star Games.

NL	100	000	101	3	10	3
AL	031	010	00X	5	8	1

July 11, 1944 Forbes Field, Pittsburgh (NL) NL: 7 AL: 1
The National League, led by the Chicago Cubs' Bill "Swish" Nicholson, who ignited a four-run rally in the fifth with a pinch-hit double, beat the American League, 7-1. Cub Phil Cavarretta reached base safely a record five times on a triple, single and three walks.

AL	010	000	000	1	6	3
NL	000	040	21X	7	12	1

PHOTO FILE/MLB PHOTOS



July 9, 1946 Fenway Park, Boston (AL) AL: 12 NL: 0
After a one-year interruption due to war-time travel restrictions, the American League, led by Ted Williams' hitting and Bob Feller's pitching, crushed the National League in the most one-sided contest in All-Star Game history, 12-0. Williams, playing in front of his hometown fans, belted two home runs and two singles in the win.

NL	000	000	000	0	3	0
AL	200	130	24X	12	14	1

July 8, 1947 Wrigley Field, Chicago (NL) AL: 2 NL: 1
The National League held a 1-0 lead through five innings, courtesy of a home run by New York Giant Johnny Mize off Frank "Spec" Shea. But Shea wound up the winning pitcher when the American League scored once in the sixth and again in the seventh, on Bobby Doerr and Stan Spence singles, to provide the 2-1 margin of victory.

AL	000	001	100	2	8	0
NL	000	100	000	1	5	1

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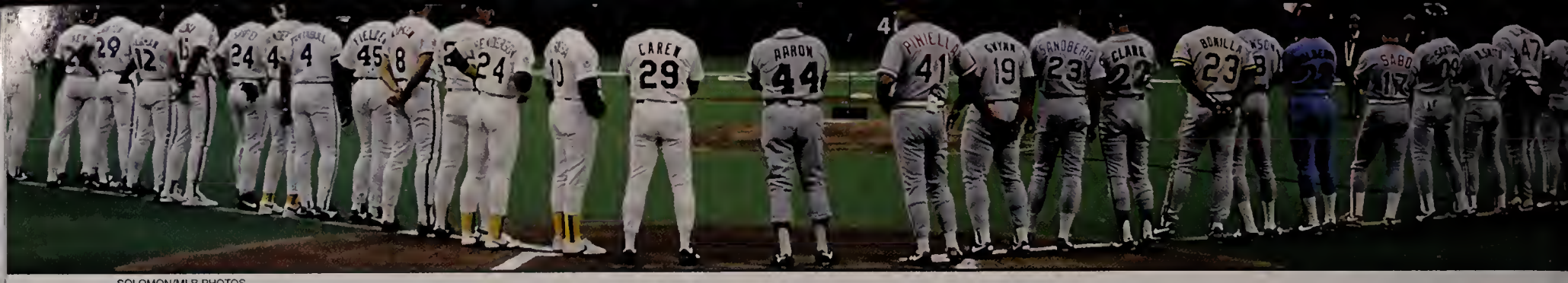


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Stealing Home, Game: 1
Harold "Pie" Traynor, NL, July 10, 1934 (front end of a double steal with Mel Ott in the fifth inning).

Individual Batting, Baserunning, Fielding, Career

Most Games: 24
Stan Musial, NL, 1943-63 (consecutive); Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (consecutive); Hank Aaron, NL, 1954-74 (23 games), AL, 1975 (one game).

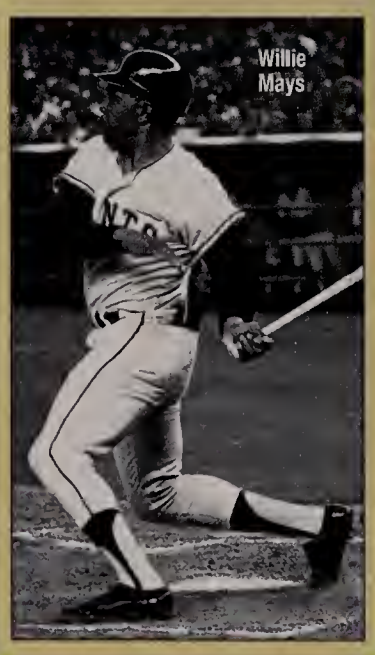
Most Games, Pinch-Hitter: 10
Stan Musial, NL

Highest Batting Average, Five or More Games: .571
Ken Griffey Jr., AL, 1990-94 (8-14 in five games).

Most At-Bats: 75
Willie Mays, NL (24 games).

Most Runs: 20
Willie Mays, NL (24 games).

Most Consecutive Games Batting Safely: 7
Mickey Mantle, AL, 1954-58, 1959 (second game), 1960 (second game); Joe Morgan, NL, 1970, 1972-77. Dave Winfield, AL, 1982-88.



AP/WORLD WIDE PHOTOS

July 13, 1948 Sportsman's Park, St. Louis (AL) AL: 5 NL: 2
The American League, crippled by injuries to four of its top stars—Joe DiMaggio, Ted Williams, George Kell and Hal Newhouser—still managed to overcome a 2-0 deficit and win for the 11th time in 15 All-Star Games. The National League jumped on starter Walt Masterson for two runs in the top of the first.

NL	200	000	000				2	8	0
AL	011	300	00X				5	6	0



PHOTO FILE/MLB PHOTOS

Jackie Robinson

July 12, 1949 Ebbets Field, Brooklyn (NL) AL: 11 NL: 7
In a high-scoring affair that saw 42 players, 25 hits, 18 runs and six errors—five committed by the National League—the American League prevailed in a slugfest, for its 12th victory in 16 games. Jackie Robinson, who became the first African-American to start an All-Star Game, opened at second base for the National League, and also cracked a double. The DiMaggio brothers, Joe and Dom, combined for four RBI and the Yankee's Vic Raschi hurled three shutout innings.

AL	400	202	300				11	13	1
NL	212	002	000				7	12	5

July 11, 1950 Comiskey Park, Chicago (AL) NL: 4 AL: 3
In the first extra-inning contest in All-Star Game history, the National League won a thriller, when the Cardinals second-baseman Red Schoendienst smacked a solo home run off Detroit's Ted Gray in the 14th inning. The American League had blown a one-run lead in the ninth inning when Art Houtteman surrendered a game-tying home run to Ralph Kiner. The game got off to a rough start, as Boston's Ted Williams fractured his left elbow when he collided into the left-field wall while robbing Kiner of an extra-base hit in the first inning.

NL	020	000	001	000	01		4	10	3
AL	001	020	000	000	00		3	8	1

July 10, 1951 Briggs Stadium, Detroit (AL) NL: 8 AL: 3
The National League, for the first time in All-Star Game history, won two consecutive contests, beating the American League in a slugfest. The Senior Circuit clobbered a record four homers. Six of the National League's eight runs resulted from the quartet of shots by Stan Musial, Bob Elliott, Ralph Kiner and Gil Hodges.

NL	100	302	110				8	12	1
AL	010	110	000				3	10	2

July 8, 1952 Shibe Park, Philadelphia (NL) NL: 3 AL: 2
In the only shortened All-Star Game in history, the National League came away with the victory, on home runs by Jackie Robinson and Hank Bauer. Before the game was called off due to rain at the end of the fifth inning, A's left-hander Bobby Shantz struck out the side.

AL	000	20	RAIN				2	5	0
NL	100	20	RAIN				3	3	0

July 14, 1953 Crosley Field, Cincinnati (NL) NL: 5 AL: 1
The National League combined a 10-hit attack with effective pitching to capture its fourth straight All-Star Game. The offensive hero was St. Louis Cardinal Enos Slaughter, who rapped two singles, earned one walk, scored twice and drove in one run. Former Negro League legend Satchel Paige, just 47-years-young, pitched the eighth inning for the American League.

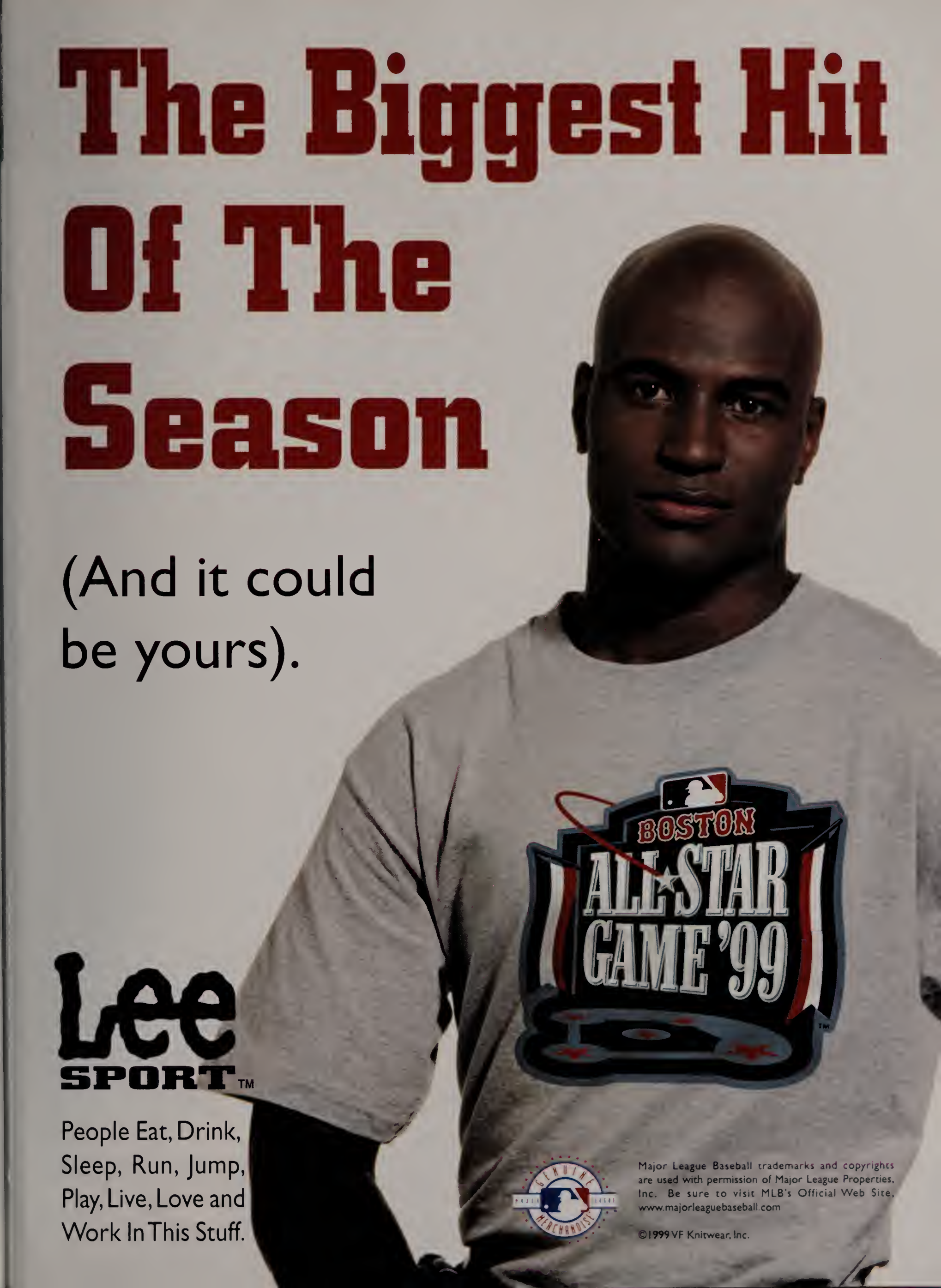
AL	000	000	001				1	5	0
NL	000	020	12X				5	10	0

July 13, 1954 Municipal Stadium, Cleveland (AL) AL: 11 NL: 9
The American League belted a record 17 hits to record the victory, 11-9, in the highest scoring contest in All-Star Game history. Despite two home runs by an injured Al Rosen and solo shots by Larry Doby and Ray Boone, the biggest hit was a bloop single by Nellie Fox in the eighth that gave the American League the win.

NL	000	520	020				9	14	0
AL	004	121	03X				11	17	1

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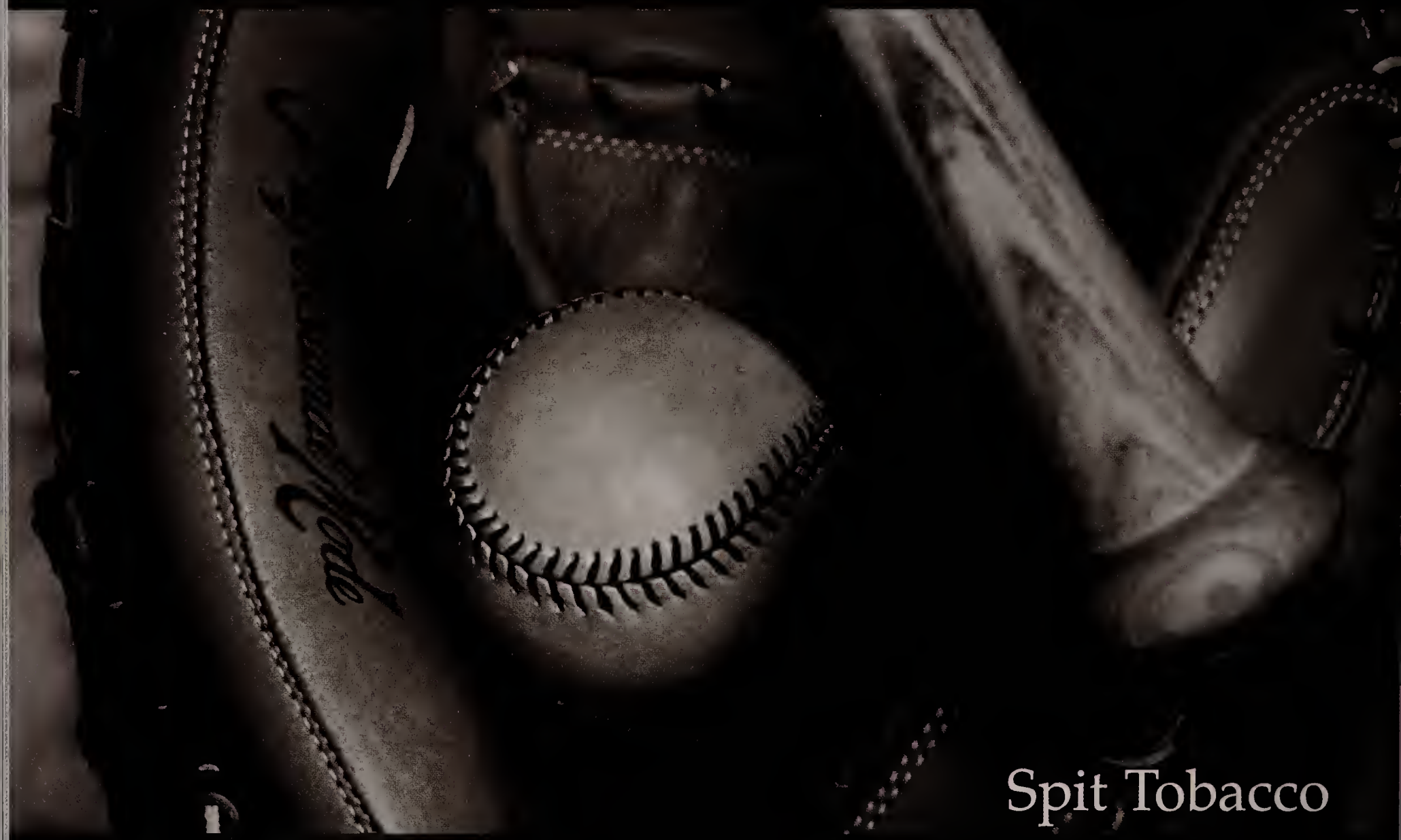
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PLAYERS



PALMER/MLB PHOTOS

July 12, 1955 County Stadium, Milwaukee (NL) NL: 6 AL: 5
After three hours and 17 minutes, 20 strikeouts and 23 hits, a solo home run by St. Louis slugger Stan Musial on the first pitch in the bottom frame of the 12th inning ended this marathon. Milwaukee's Gene Conley, who struck out the side in the 12th, was the winning pitcher, while Boston's Frank Sullivan got the loss.

AL	400	001	000	000	5	10	2
NL	000	000	230	001	6	13	1

July 10, 1956 Griffith Stadium, Washington (AL) NL: 7 AL: 3
The National League pounded out 11 hits, including home runs by Willie Mays and Stan Musial, to win for the sixth time in seven games. The game's hero was St. Louis Cardinals third baseman Ken Boyer, who finished 3-for-5 and turned in three acrobatic fielding plays.

NL	001	211	200	7	11	0
AL	000	003	000	3	11	0

July 9, 1957 Busch Stadium, St. Louis (NL) AL: 6 NL: 5
An avalanche of votes from Cincinnati elected Reds to eight National League starting positions. The only non-Red was first baseman Stan Musial. Commissioner Ford Frick arbitrarily named Willie Mays and Hank Aaron to the starting team, but the American League still won.

AL	020	001	003	6	10	1
NL	000	000	203	5	9	1

July 8, 1958 Memorial Stadium, Baltimore (AL) AL: 4 NL: 3
The Diamond Jubilee Game featured 13 hits—all singles—as the American League won, 4-3. The first hit came on the game's first pitch, to San Francisco's Willie Mays, who later scored. But two American League singles in the sixth by Frank Malzone and Gil McDougald provided the difference for the American League.

NL	210	000	000	3	4	2
AL	110	011	00X	4	9	2

July 7, 1959 Forbes Field, Pittsburgh (NL) NL: 5 AL: 4
The All-Star Game, a Midsummer fixture since 1933, became a double feature in 1959. Two games were scheduled to help give the players' pension fund a boost. The National League captured the first contest by a run, but the American League earned the split a month later on the strength of three home runs.

AL	000	100	030	4	8	0
NL	100	000	22X	5	9	1

August 3, 1959 Memorial Coliseum, Los Angeles (NL) AL: 5 NL: 3

AL	012	000	110	5	6	0
NL	100	010	100	3	6	3

July 11, 1960 Municipal Stadium, Kansas City (AL) NL: 5 AL: 3
The National League won both All-Star Games, in what would become the only year this was accomplished. The "Senior Circuit" edged the American League in the first game, then won the second on three hits by Willie Mays, four home runs, and shutout pitching by six pitchers.

NL	311	000	000	5	12	4
AL	000	001	020	3	6	1

July 13, 1960 Yankee Stadium, New York (AL) NL: 6 AL: 0

NL	021	000	102	6	10	0
AL	000	000	000	0	8	0



Jim Bunning

PHOTO FILE/MLB PHOTOS

July 11, 1961 Candlestick Park, San Francisco (NL) NL: 5 AL: 4
The National League out-hit the American League 11-4 in the first All-Star Game of '61, but had to rally in the bottom of the 10th to win. Jim Bunning fired two scoreless innings for the Junior Circuit. History was made in the second game, as rain stopped play after nine innings, making it the only All-Star Game tie.

AL	000	001	002	1	4	4	2
NL	010	100	010	2	5	11	5

July 31, 1961 Fenway Park, Boston (AL) NL: 1 AL: 1

NL	000	001	000	1	5	1	
AL	100	000	000	1	4	0	RAIN

Most Two-Base Hits: 7
Dave Winfield, NL, 1977-80, AL, 1981-88 (12 games).

Most Three-Base Hits: 3
Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games); Brooks Robinson, AL, 1960-74 (18 games).

Most Career Home Runs
Nine players have hit three or more home runs in All-Star Game competition: Stan Musial, 6 (in 24 games played); Fred Lynn, 4, (nine games); Ted Williams, 4, (18 games); Johnny Bench, 3 (12 games); Gary Carter, 3, (eight games); Rocky Colavito, 3, (nine games); Harmon Killebrew, 3, (11 games); Ralph Kiner, 3, (five games; accomplished feat in consecutive All-Star Games, 1949-51); Willie Mays, 3, (24 games).

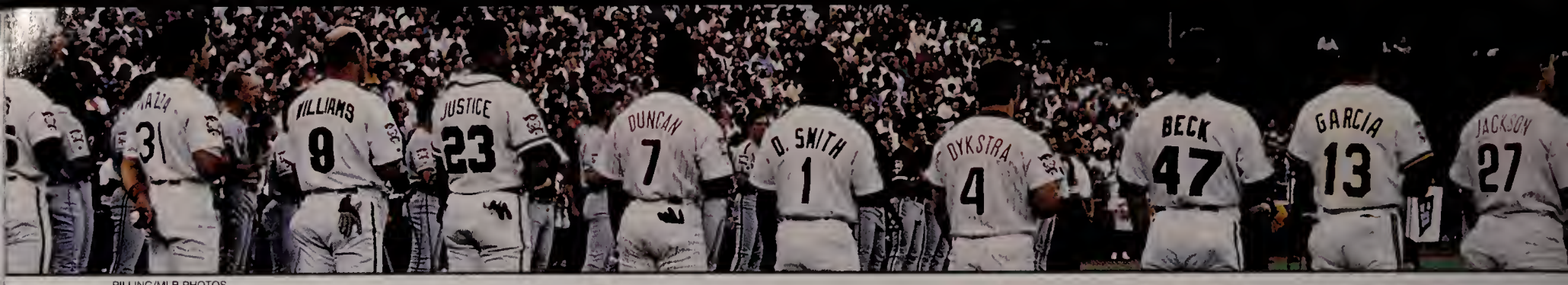
Most Consecutive Games Hitting Home Run: 3
Ralph Kiner, NL, 1949-51.

Most Total Bases: 40
Stan Musial, NL, 1943-63 (24 games); Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games).



Dave Winfield

ROBIN KATCHANTONES



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

July 10, 1962 D.C. Stadium, Washington (AL) NL: 3 AL: 1
In the final year of two All-Star Games, the leagues traded wins. The National League grabbed the opener thanks to three hits by Roberto Clemente. The American League evened things up—and won its last Midsummer Classic during the 1960s—on home runs by Pete Runnels, Leon Wagner and Rocky Colavito.

NL	000	002	010	3	8	0
AL	000	001	000	1	4	0

July 30, 1962 Wrigley Field, Chicago (NL) AL: 9 NL: 4

AL	001	201	302	9	10	0
NL	010	000	111	4	10	4

July 9, 1963 Municipal Stadium, Cleveland (AL) NL: 5 AL: 3
The National League used just six hits, all singles, to earn the victory. San Francisco slugger Willie Mays starred, as he collected one hit, drove in two runs, scored twice, and stole two bases. Stan Musial set a record with his 24th All-Star Game appearance.

NL	012	010	010	5	6	0
AL	012	000	000	3	11	1

July 7, 1964 Shea Stadium, New York (NL) NL: 7 AL: 4
The National League rallied for four runs in the bottom of the ninth to win. Willie Mays led off with a walk and stole second. Orlando Cepeda drove in Mays to tie the game and went to second on Joe Pepitone's throwing error. After Johnny Edwards was intentionally walked, Johnny Callison homered over the right-field wall.

AL	100	002	100	4	9	1
NL	000	210	004	7	8	0

July 12, 1966 Busch Stadium, St. Louis (NL) NL: 2 AL: 1
In a pitchers' battle highlighted by Denny McLain's three perfect innings, the National League eventually triumphed on a Maury Wills single in the 10th inning.

AL	010	000	000	0	1	6	0
NL	000	100	000	1	2	6	0

July 11, 1967 Anaheim Stadium, California (AL) NL: 2 AL: 1
The National League squeaked by with a 15-inning victory, the longest contest in All-Star Game history. All three runs came courtesy of the long ball, the first by National Leaguer Richie Allen, the second by Brooks Robinson, and the game-winner by Tony Perez.

NL	010	000	000	000	001	2	9	0
AL	000	001	000	000	000	1	8	0

July 9, 1968 Astrodome, Houston (NL) NL: 1 AL: 0
The first indoor All-Star Game was highlighted by overpowering pitching. The two leagues combined for just eight hits and one run, which was earned by the National League in the first inning on a single, an error, a wild pitch and a double play.

AL	000	000	000	0	3	1
NL	100	000	00X	1	5	0

July 23, 1969 RFK Memorial Stadium, Washington (AL) NL: 9 AL: 3
Detroit's Denny McLain, the American League's starting pitcher, arrived too late to start the game. By the time he entered the contest in the fourth inning, the National League had accumulated eight runs, including two-run blasts by Johnny Bench and Willie McCovey.

NL	125	100	000	9	11	0
AL	011	100	000	3	6	2

July 13, 1965 Metropolitan Stadium, Minnesota (AL) NL: 6 AL: 5
With Juan Marichal facing the minimum of nine batters over the first three innings, the National League breezed to an early 5-0 lead. But the American League stormed back to tie things up on a pair of two-run shots by Dick McAuliffe and Harmon Killebrew. The National League broke the deadlock in the seventh when Willie Mays scored on a Ron Santo infield hit.

NL	320	000	100	6	11	0
AL	000	140	000	5	8	0

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Most Bases on Balls: 11
Ted Williams, AL, 1940-60 (18 games).
Most Strikeouts: 17
Mickey Mantle, AL, 1953-68 (16 games).

Most Stolen Bases: 6
Willie Mays, NL, 1954-73 (24 games).

Most Fielding Positions Played: 5
Pete Rose, NL, 1965-82, 85, second base, left field, right field, third base, first base (16 games).

Club Batting, Baserunning, Game

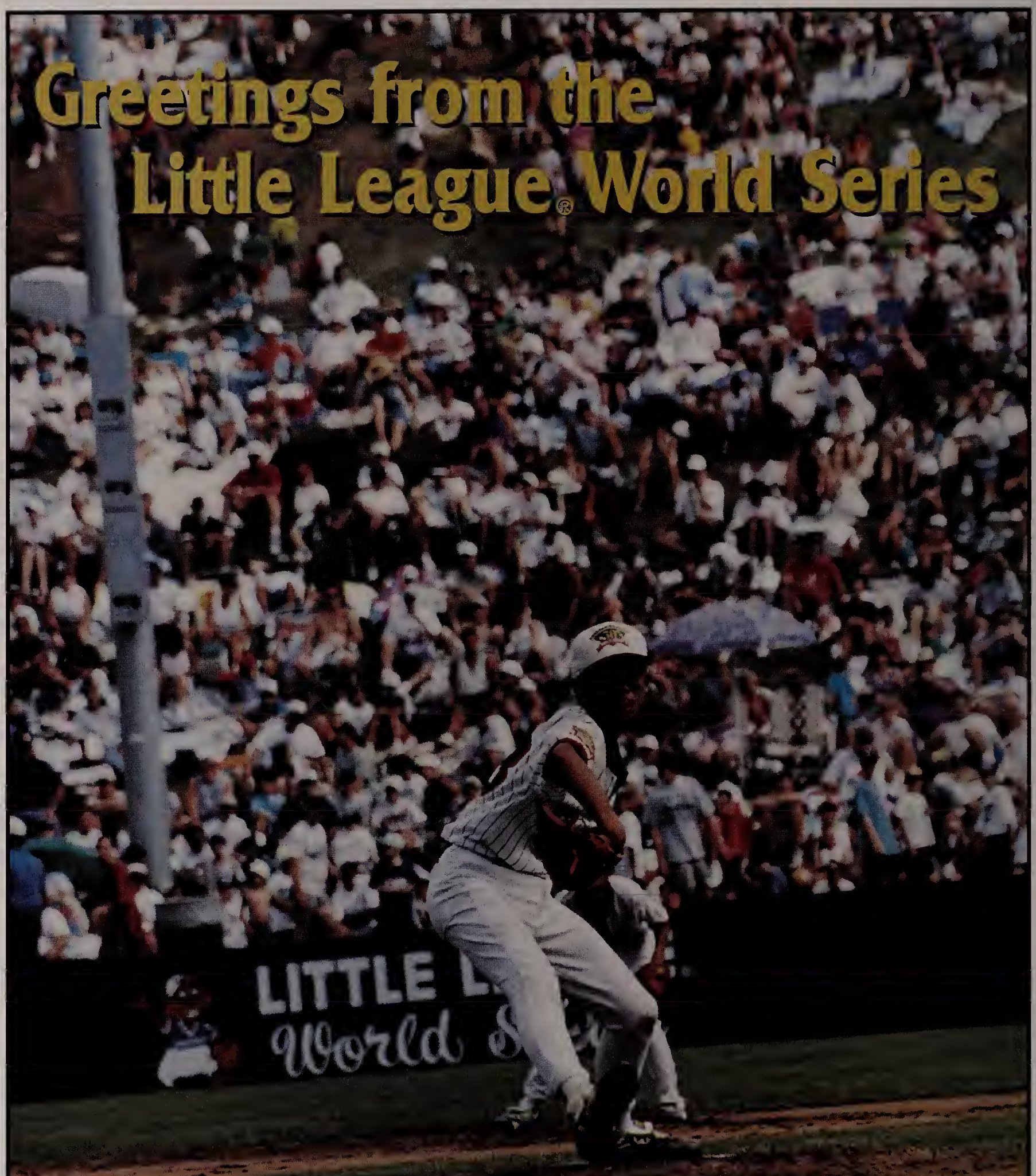
Most Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game, One Club: 44
AL, July 14, 1992.

Most Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game, Both Clubs: 83
AL (44), NL (39), July 14, 1992.




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July 14, 1970 Riverfront Stadium, Cincinnati (NL) NL: 5 AL: 4
The National League erupted for three runs in the ninth to force extra innings. In the 12th, Pete Rose notched the game-winner on a Jim Hickman single when catcher Ray Fosse dropped the ball following a collision at the plate.

AL	000	001	120	000	4	12	0
NL	000	000	103	001	5	10	0

July 13, 1971 Tiger Stadium, Detroit (AL) AL: 6 NL: 4
The American League snapped an eight-game losing streak by belting three two-run homers. The six home runs by six different players tied an All-Star Game record.

NL	021	000	010	4	5	0
AL	004	002	00X	6	7	0

July 25, 1972 Atlanta Stadium, Atlanta (NL) NL: 4 AL: 3
Cookie Rojas' two-run homer gave the American League a 3-2 lead heading into the ninth. But the National League tied things up in the bottom half of the frame, then won in the 10th on a Joe Morgan RBI single.

AL	001	000	020	0	3	6	0
NL	000	002	001	1	4	8	0

July 24, 1973 Royals Stadium, Kansas City (AL) NL: 7 AL: 1
MVP Bobby Bonds replaced starter Billy Williams in the fourth inning then smacked a two-run homer in the fifth inning as the National League earned the victory.

NL	002	122	000	7	10	0
AL	010	000	000	1	5	0

July 23, 1974 Three Rivers Stadium, Pittsburgh (NL) NL: 7 AL: 2
American League President Lee MacPhail, noting that his league had just one victory over the last 11 All-Star Games, instructed Dick Williams to use the best talent available. But the National League still won, 7-2.

AL	002	000	000	2	4	1
NL	010	210	12X	7	10	1

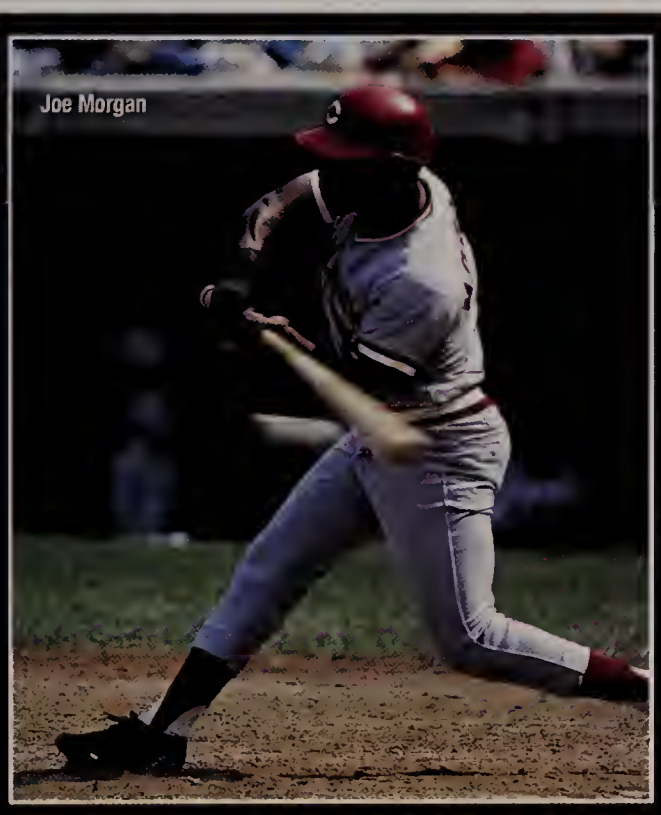
July 15, 1975 County Stadium, Milwaukee (AL) NL: 6 AL: 3
The National League's 2-0 lead included homers by Steve Garvey and Jimmy Wynn, but Carl Yastrzemski later tied it with a three-run blast. In the ninth, American League outfielders misplayed two balls leading to three NL runs.

NL	021	000	003	6	13	1
AL	000	003	000	3	10	1

July 13, 1976 Veterans Stadium, Philadelphia (NL) NL: 7 AL: 1
The National League continued its dominance in the All-Star Game with its 13th win in the last 14 contests. George Foster and Cesar Cedeno each hit two-run shots.

AL	000	100	000	1	5	0
NL	202	000	03X	7	10	0

PILLING/MLB PHOTOS



July 19, 1977 Yankee Stadium, New York (AL) NL: 7 AL: 5
Joe Morgan opened the game with a homer off Jim Palmer. By the time the inning had ended, the National League had scored four runs en route to a 7-5 victory.

NL	401	000	020	7	9	1
AL	000	002	102	5	8	1

July 11, 1978 San Diego Stadium, San Diego (NL) NL: 7 AL: 3
The National League shook starter Vida Blue for three runs in the bottom of the third and then scored four more off Rich Gossage in the eighth to win once again.

AL	201	000	000	3	8	1
NL	003	000	04X	7	10	0

July 17, 1979 Kingdome, Seattle (AL) NL: 7 AL: 6
Lee Mazzilli clubbed an opposite-field homer in his first All-Star at-bat to tie the score in the eighth inning. In the ninth, he walked to force in the winning run.

NL	211	001	011	7	10	0
AL	302	001	000	6	10	0

ROBIN KATCHANTONES



Fewest Official At-Bats, Nine-Inning Game, One Club: 27
July 9, 1968 (eight innings).

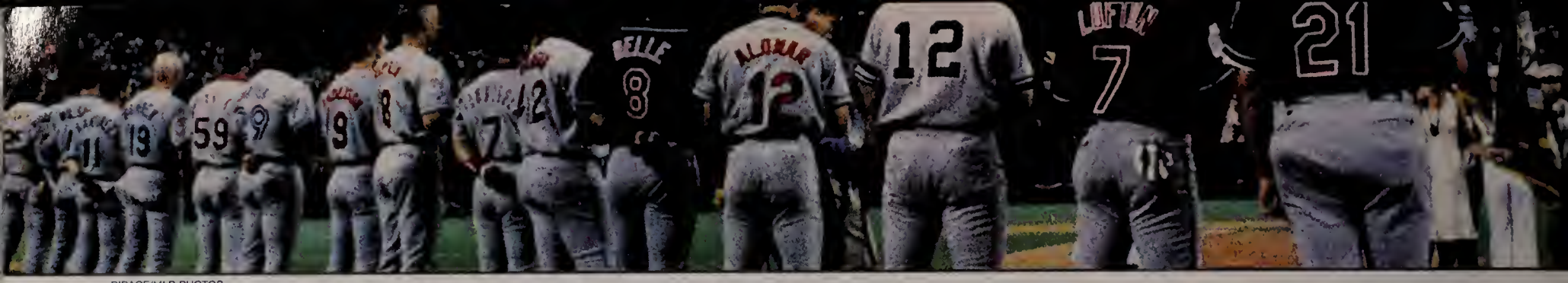
Most Runs, Game, Both Clubs: 21
AL (13), NL (8), July 7, 1998.

Most Hits, Game, One Club: 19
AL, July 14, 1992; AL, July 7, 1998.

Most Hits, Game, Both Clubs: 31
AL (17), NL (14), July 14, 1954; AL (19), NL (12), July 14, 1992; AL (19), NL (12), July 7, 1998.

Back-to-Back Home Runs: 4
Al Rosen and Ray Boone, AL, July 13, 1954; Ted Williams and Mickey Mantle, AL, July 10, 1956; Steve Garvey and Jimmy Wynn, July 15, 1975; Bo Jackson and Wade Boggs, AL, July 11, 1989.

Most Two-Base Hits, Game, Both Clubs: 7
AL (5), NL (2), July 12, 1949; AL (4), NL (3), July 13, 1993.



DIPACE/MLB PHOTOS



ROBIN KATCHANTONES

Juan Marichal

Most Home Runs, Inning, Both Clubs: 3
NL, 2 (Stan Musial, Bob Elliott), AL, 1 (Vic Wertz), July 10, 1951, fourth inning; AL, 2 (Reggie Jackson, Frank Robinson), NL, 1 (Hank Aaron), July 13, 1971, third inning.

INDIVIDUAL PITCHING

Most Games Pitched: 8
Jim Bunning, AL, 1957, 1959 (first game), 1961 (2), 1962 (first game), 1963, NL, 1964, 1966; Don Drysdale, NL, 1959 (2), 1962 (first game), 1963, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1968; Juan Marichal, NL, 1962 (2), 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1971; Tom Seaver, NL, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1973, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1981.

Most Consecutive Games Pitched: 6
Ewell Blackwell, NL, 1946-51; Early Wynn, AL, 1955-59 (both games in 1959).

Most Games Won: 3
Lefty Gomez, AL, 1933, 1935, 1937.

July 8, 1980 Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles (NL) NL: 4 AL: 2
After spotting the American League a 2-0 lead on Fred Lynn's two-run shot, the National League rallied on a single and a homer by Ken Griffey Sr. to win.

AL	000	020	000	2	7 1
NL	000	012	10X	4	7 0

August 9, 1981 Municipal Stadium, Cleveland (AL) NL: 5 AL: 4
The largest crowd in All-Star Game history saw the National League score all of its runs on homers and stretch its winning streak to 10 games. Mike Schmidt's two-run blast in the eighth proved the game winner.

NL	000	011	120	5	9 1
AL	010	003	000	4	11 1

July 13, 1982 Olympic Stadium, Montreal (NL) NL: 4 AL: 1
This represented the first All-Star Game played outside the United States. But the change in venue didn't help the American League, as Dave Concepcion drilled a two-run homer to lead the National League to victory.

AL	100	000	000	1	8 2
NL	021	001	00X	4	8 1

July 6, 1983 Comiskey Park, Chicago (AL) AL: 13 NL: 3
The American League celebrated the All-Star Game's 50th Anniversary—and a victory—at the site of the first game, Comiskey Park. An 11-game losing streak was snapped courtesy of a seven-run outburst in the third.

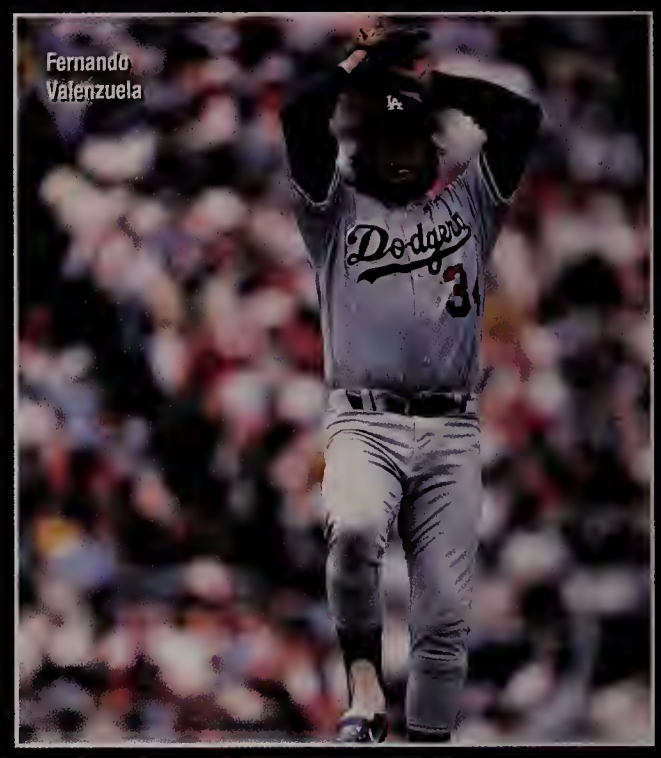
NL	100	110	000	3	8 3
AL	117	000	22X	13	15 2

July 10, 1984 Candlestick Park, San Francisco (NL) NL: 3 AL: 1
At age 19, Dwight Gooden became the youngest player ever to compete in an All-Star Game, teaming with Fernando Valanzuela to lead the National League to a 3-1 victory.

AL	010	000	000	1	7 2
NL	110	000	01X	3	8 0

July 16, 1985 Metrodome, Minnesota (AL) NL: 6 AL: 1
The American League managed just five singles and one unearned run as five National League pitchers, including LaMarr Hoyt and Nolan Ryan, served up the heat.

NL	011	020	002	6	9 1
AL	100	000	000	1	5 0



PILLING/MLB PHOTOS

July 15, 1986 Astrodome, Houston (NL) AL: 3 NL: 2
Fernando Valenzuela fanned five consecutive batters to tie Carl Hubbell's 52-year-old All-Star Game record. The American League still triumphed thanks to two home runs.

AL	020	000	100	3	5 0
NL	000	000	020	2	5 1

July 14, 1987 Oakland Coliseum, Oakland (AL) NL: 2 AL: 0
Pitching dominated as the teams battled through 12 scoreless innings. But Tim Raines' triple to left-center in the 13th inning scored Ozzie Virgil and Hubie Brooks for a 2-0 National League victory.

NL	000	000	000	000	2	2 8	2
AL	000	000	000	000	0	0 6	1

July 12, 1988 Riverfront Stadium, Cincinnati (NL) AL: 2 NL: 1
Terry Steinbach's MVP performance led the American League back into the win column. The Oakland slugger homered in his first All-Star Game at-bat in the third and drove in the game-winner in the fourth.

AL	001	100	000	2	6 2
NL	000	100	000	1	5 0

July 11, 1989 Anaheim Stadium, California (AL) AL: 5 NL: 3
Bo Jackson led off the bottom of the first with a home run in his first All-Star Game at-bat and Wade Boggs followed with his own shot, to lead the American League to back-to-back wins for the first time since 1957-58.

NL	200	000	010	3	9 1
AL	212	000	00X	5	12 0

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July 10, 1990 Wrigley Field, Chicago (NL) AL: 2 NL: 0
Wrigley Field, the last bastion of daytime baseball, hosted its third All-Star Game and its first under lights. The American League won its third in a row, as its pitchers, led by Bob Welch, surrendered just two hits.

AL	000	000	200	2	7 0
NL	000	000	000	0	2 1

July 9, 1991 SkyDome, Toronto (AL) AL: 4 NL: 2
Cal Ripken's three-run blast in the bottom of the third inning, following singles by Rickey Henderson and Wade Boggs, helped the American League earn the victory in just the second All-Star Game ever held in Canada. Andre Dawson hit a homer in a losing effort.

NL	100	100	000	2	10 1
AL	003	000	10X	4	8 0

July 6, 1992 Jack Murphy Stadium, San Diego (NL) AL: 13 NL: 6
The American League chased starter Tom Glavine with four runs on seven consecutive singles in the first inning. Ken Griffey Jr. went 3-for-3 with a home run, and his teammates added four runs in the sixth and three more in the eighth to complete the rout.

AL	411	004	030	13	19 1
NL	000	001	032	6	12 1

July 13, 1993 Oriole Park at Camden Yards, Baltimore (AL) AL: 9 NL: 3
After spotting the National League a 2-0 lead in the first inning, the American League roared back. Led by Kirby Puckett's homer and double, the Junior Circuit scored three runs in both the fifth and sixth frames, while its pitchers held the National League in check.

NL	200	001	000	3	7 2
AL	011	033	10X	9	11 0

July 12, 1994 Three Rivers Stadium, Pittsburgh (NL) NL: 8 AL: 7
The National League snapped a six-game losing streak, thanks to Moises Alou's double that scored Tony Gwynn in the bottom of the 10th inning. A home run by Atlanta's Fred McGriff in the ninth forced extra innings.

AL	100	003	300	0	7	15 0
NL	103	001	002	1	8	12 1

July 11, 1995 The Ballpark in Arlington, Texas (AL) NL: 3 AL: 2
Following three scoreless innings, the American League posted a 2-0 lead when Frank Thomas crushed a John Smiley pitch in the bottom of the fourth. Despite struggling offensively, the National League made the most of its three hits—all yard shots by Craig Biggio, Mike Piazza and Jeff Conine—for the one-run triumph.

NL	000	001	110	3	3 0
AL	000	200	000	2	8 0

July 9, 1996 Veterans Stadium, Philadelphia NL: 6 AL: 0
Nine National League hurlers combined for the seventh shutout in All-Star Game history. Los Angeles catcher Mike Piazza blasted a home run in the second and drove in two runs to earn MVP honors. Neither team issued a walk for the first time in Midsummer Classic history.

AL	000	000	000	0	7 0
NL	121	002	00x	6	12 1

July 8, 1997 Jacobs Field, Cleveland (AL) AL: 3 NL: 1
Sandy Alomar Jr. made the most of his first All-Star Game appearance in five seasons and only at-bat of the contest. The Cleveland slugger belted a game-deciding homer in the seventh inning in front of a thrilled home crowd. American League pitchers did their part, too, limiting the National League lineup to three hits.

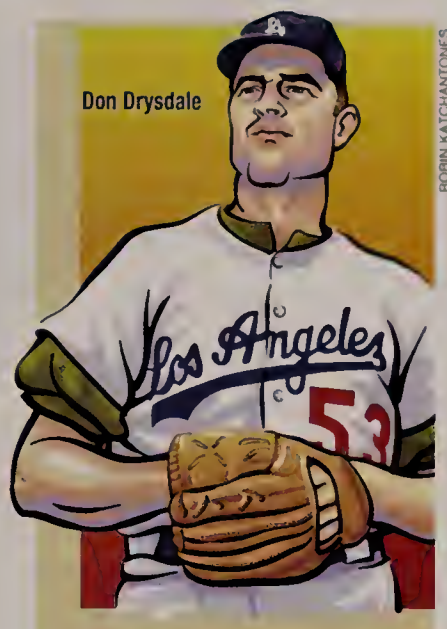
NL	000	000	100	1	3 0
AL	010	000	20X	3	7 0



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July 7, 1998 Coors Field, Denver (NL) AL: 13 NL: 8
The first All-Star Game at Coors Field, as expected, proved to be a high-scoring affair, with the American League taking a 13-8 decision even though only three home runs were hit. Led by Roberto Alomar, the Junior Circuit scored at least one run every inning after the fourth, and Paul O'Neill's throw to nail Fernando Vina at the plate in the eighth inning helped seal the victory.

AL	000	413	113	13	19 2
NL	002	130	020	8	12 1



ROBIN KATCHANTONES

Most Games Lost: 2
Mort Cooper, NL, 1942-43; Claude Passeau, NL, 1941, 1946; Whitey Ford, AL, 1959 (first game), 1960 (second game); Luis Tiant, AL, 1968, 1974; Catfish Hunter, AL, 1967, 1975; Dwight Gooden, NL, 1986, 1988.

Most Innings Pitched, Total Games: 19 1/3
Don Drysdale, NL (eight games).

Most Runs Allowed, Game: 7
Atlee Hammaker, NL, July 6, 1983.

Most Hits Allowed, Game: 9
Tom Glavine, NL, July 14, 1992.

Most Home Runs Allowed, Game: 3
Jim Palmer, AL, July 19, 1977.

Most Bases on Balls, Game: 5
Bill Hallahan, NL, July 6, 1933, two innings.

Most Strikeouts, Game: 6
Carl Hubbell, NL, July 10, 1934; Johnny Vander Meer, NL, July 13, 1943; Larry Jansen, NL, July 11, 1950; Ferguson Jenkins, NL, July 11, 1967.

By Keith Olbermann

Magical Markings

SAVE THIS PROGRAM.

In fact, if you're reading this before the game starts, get out a pen, or pencil, and no matter what else you do, keep score. Steal a pen if you have to; tap your neighbor on the shoulder and tell him Mo Vaughn's trying to get his attention and you'll hold his pen for him.

In this time when the miracles of satellites and videotape bring every star from every game into our homes every night, we forget what the All-Star Game really *is*. Here and here alone is the confluence, the gathering of the amazing, sometimes teeming mass of talent in baseball. This is the moment of testimony, the frozen image of who was good and just how good they were on a July night in the season of 1999. Regardless of what actually happens on the field, this will become an immutable record of the entirety.



Write it down!

When I was a boy, and the stars rarely appeared on our televisions, the All-Star Game was so special, so unmatched, that the day before it I would begin to prepare a giant scorecard out of construction paper, with extra wide boxes for the many lineup changes, and a variety of pens with which to inscribe the different names and key plays. The All-Star Game was to be watched, in front of the biggest TV in the house, with reverence, with hope not that one team or the other would do well, but that there would be great plays to record.

Last year, long separated from my boyhood and my handcrafted scorecards both, I found myself covering the game from the unique vantage point of the American League dugout. The players of our day (and for that matter, the reporters) seem jaded and even indifferent. The testimony from inside that dugout in Denver last summer suggests otherwise.

"This is really neat," David Wells said as he sidled over. We had had our differences in the past but something about the event ameliorated them. He had just retired Biggio, Gwynn, and Galarraga. I had just witnessed it. The first accomplishment seemed only mildly more impressive than the latter.

Paul O'Neill is supposed to be too intense to enjoy his marvelous talents. "Any place you'd rather be?" he asked me with a big smile. The 10-year-old reclaimed my body, a silly grin overtook me, and I shook my head no. "Me neither," said O'Neill as he clapped me on the arm.

The All-Star Game does not *count* for anything, not really. We have given up what is, in retrospect, the foolish notion that it could somehow determine which league was "better" than the other. With Interleague Play and free agency, we have lost the pitcher-batter showdowns that were once exclusive to the game. But if it does not count, the game always *matters*.

What milestone will this game represent? Will it need to carry more historical weight than being the last All-Star Game of the 1900s? Will it be the last one in this baseball shrine? What secret omen — like Roger Clemens replacing Wells last year — will it contain?

When Wells came over to me in the dugout last year he noticed I was writing something on a folded piece of cardboard. "Are you keeping score?" he asked. I told him I always did. "Let me see *my* inning."

Get your pen out, please. ◆

Keith Olbermann is the Senior Correspondent of Fox Sports News, and host of Fox's broadcast of this All-Star Game — his 33rd.

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